



## **Equality Information and Objectives Statement**

### **Opening statement**

At St Joseph's we welcome our duties under the Equality Act 2010. The school's general duties with regard to equality are:

- Eliminating discrimination.
- Fostering good relationships.
- Advancing equality of opportunity.

We will not discriminate against, harass or victimise any staff member, pupil, prospective pupil, or other member of the school community because of their:

- Sex.
- Age.
- Race.
- Disability.
- Religion or belief.
- Sexual orientation.
- Gender reassignment.
- Pregnancy or maternity.
- Marriage and civil partnership.

We aim to promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, with special emphasis on promoting equality and diversity, and eradicating prejudicial incidents for pupils and staff. Our school is committed to not only eliminating discrimination, but also increasing understanding and appreciation for diversity.

### **Aims to eradicate discrimination**

We believe that a greater level of success from pupils and staff can be achieved by realising the uniqueness of individuals. Creating an inclusive environment where individuals feel confident and at ease is a commitment of the school. This environment will be achieved by:

- Being respectful.
- Always treating all members of the school community fairly.
- Developing an understanding of diversity and inclusion and the benefits it can have.
- Adopting an inclusive attitude and ensuring that the whole school community understands what inclusive behaviour looks like in the school and how this aligns with the school's values.
- Adopting an inclusive curriculum that is accessible to all.
- Encouraging compassion and open-mindedness.
- Challenging bias and calling it out in order to move the conversation forward.

We are committed to having a balanced, diverse and fair curriculum. We believe that our pupils should be exposed to ideas and concepts that may challenge their understanding, to help ensure

that pupils learn to become more accepting and inclusive of others. Challenging and controversial concepts will be delivered in a way that prevents discrimination and promotes inclusive attitudes.

### **Dealing with prejudice and celebrating diversity**

We do not tolerate any form of prejudice-related incident. Whether direct or indirect, we treat discrimination against all members of our school with the utmost severity. When an incident is reported, our school is devoted to ensuring appropriate action is taken and a resolution is put into place which is both fair and firm.

Our pupils are taught to be:

- Understanding of others.
- Celebratory of diversity.
- Eager to reach their full potential.
- Inclusive.
- Aware of what constitutes discriminatory behaviour.

The school's employees will not:

- Discriminate against any member of the school community.
- Treat other members of the school community unfairly.

The school's employees will:

- Promote diversity and equality.
- Encourage and adopt an inclusive attitude.
- Lead by example.
- Seek training if they need to improve their knowledge in a particular area.

Throughout the year, the school provides a variety of opportunities to celebrate diversity, including:

- Planning activities for key diversity awareness days.
- Inviting guest speakers to talk to pupils about diversity.
- Incorporating lessons about diversity into the curriculum.

### **Equality and dignity in the workplace**

We do not discriminate against staff with regard to their:

- Age.
- Disability.
- Gender reassignment.
- Marital or civil partner status.
- Pregnancy or maternity.
- Race.
- Religion or belief.

- Sex.
- Sexual orientation.

Equality of opportunity and non-discrimination extends to the treatment of all members of the school community. All staff members are obliged to act in accordance with the school's various policies relating to equality.

We will guarantee that no redundancy is the result of direct or indirect prejudice. All disciplinary procedures are non-prejudicial, whether they result in warnings, dismissal, or any other disciplinary action.

### **Diversity and representation**

At St Joseph's we ensure pupils have an understanding of what diversity is and the importance of accepting people's differences. Through our PSHE curriculum and in particular the 'No outsiders' programme of study we expose the children through literature to all the protected characteristics in an age appropriate manner which ensures that the children are knowledgeable and also have an understanding of the differences they will encounter within the community we live.

### **Inclusion**

St Joseph's fosters an inclusive environment for all members of the school community. We work tirelessly to ensure all are included and make the necessary reasonable adjustments, such as;

- Challenging negative attitudes amongst students.
- Avoiding stereotypes in curricular resources and examples.
- Setting clear rules regarding how people treat each other.
- Treating all students and staff equally and fairly.
- Creating an all-inclusive environment for students and staff.
- Actively using resources that have multicultural themes.
- Working to promote multiculturalism in lessons.
- Creating lessons that reflect and promote diversity in the classroom.
- Making sure that all students have equal access to participation and opportunities.
- Using a variety of assessment methods.
- Using a range of teaching methods.
- Ensuring that all procedures and policies are non-discriminatory.
- Making sure that classroom materials never discriminate against anyone and are accessible to all even if this means adapting to audio, large print, or video.
- Avoiding stereotypes in curricular resources and examples.
- Setting clear rules regarding how people treat each other.
- Treating all students and staff equally and fairly.
- Creating an all-inclusive environment for students and staff.
- Actively using resources that have multicultural themes.

**Closing statement**

Prejudice is not tolerated here at St Joseph's and we are continuously working towards a more accepting and respectful environment for our school community.

Updated May 2023