

# Gateway Federation Lea C.E. Primary and Gateway Lodge Nursery and Gorsley Goffs Primary Schools



## Equal Opportunities Policy

Written by:	SMT.
Reviewed	January 2023
Date for Review	January 2027
Signed Head Teacher.	D. Atkinson

## **1 Aims and objectives**

- 1.1** We do not discriminate against anyone, be they staff or pupil, on the grounds of their sex, race, sexual orientation, disability, colour, religion, nationality, ethnic or national origins. This is in line with the 1976 Race Relations Act and its extension in 2000 and covers both direct and indirect discrimination.

This policy is based on the following legislation and guidance:

- The Equality Act 2010
- The Public Sector Equality Duty
- The Human Rights Act 1998
- The Education Act 1996
- The SEND Code of Practice

- 1.2** We promote the principles of fairness and justice for all through the education that we provide in our school.

- 1.3** We ensure that all pupils have equal access to the full range of educational opportunities provided by the school.

- 1.4** We constantly strive to remove any forms of indirect discrimination that may form barriers to learning.

- 1.5** We ensure that all recruitment, employment, promotion and training systems are fair to all, and provide opportunities for everyone to achieve.

- 1.6** We challenge stereotyping and prejudice whenever it occurs.

- 1.7** We celebrate the cultural diversity of our community and show respect for all minority groups.

- 1.8** We are aware that prejudice and stereotyping is caused by low self-image and ignorance. Through positive educational experiences and support for each individual's point of view, we aim to promote positive social attitudes and respect for all.

## **2 Anti-racism**

- 2.1** It is the right of all pupils to receive the best education the school can provide, with access to all educational activities organised by the school. We do not tolerate any forms of racism or racist behaviour. Should a racist incident occur, we will act immediately to prevent any repetition of the incident. Any incidents of racism are submitted to the LA.

- 2.2** We endeavour to make our school welcoming to all minority groups. We promote an understanding of different cultures through the topics studied by the children.

- 2.3** Our curriculum reflects the attitudes, values and respect that we have for all ethnic groups.

- 2.4** Should anyone at our school be a victim of racism, we will do all we can to support that person in overcoming any difficulties they may have and follow county guidelines in tackling those exhibiting racist behaviour.

### **3 The role of governors**

- 3.1** The governing body has set out its commitment to equal opportunities in this policy statement, and it will continue to do all it can to ensure that all members of the school community are treated fairly and with equality.
- 3.2** The governing body seeks to ensure that people with disabilities are not discriminated against when applying for jobs at our school. The governors take all reasonable steps to ensure that the school environment gives access to people with disabilities. The school has an Accessibility Plan.
- 3.3** The governors welcome all applications to join the school, whatever background or disability a child may have.
- 3.4** The governing body ensures that no child is discriminated against whilst in our school on account of their sex, religion or race. So, for example, all children have access to the full range of the curriculum, and regulations regarding school uniform will be applied equally to boys and girls. If a child's religion affects the school uniform, then the school will deal with each case sensitively and with respect for the child's cultural traditions.

### **4 The role of the Head of School/Executive Head**

- 4.1** It is the Head of School/Executive Head teacher's role to implement the school's equal opportunities policy and they are supported by the governing body in so doing.
- 4.2** It is the Head of School/Executive Head's role to ensure that all staff are aware of the school policy on equal opportunities and that teachers apply these guidelines fairly in all situations.
- 4.3** The Head of School/Executive Head ensures that all appointments panels give due regard to this policy, so that no-one is discriminated against when it comes to employment or training opportunities. The Head of School/Executive Head and one governor are fully trained in Safer Recruitment.
- 4.4** The Head of School/Executive Head promote the principle of equal opportunity when developing the curriculum, and promote respect for other people in all aspects of school life, for example, in the assembly, where respect for other people is a regular theme and in displays shown around the school. The school motto 'Show respect and always try your best.' reflects tolerance and acceptance of everyone.
- 4.5** The Head of School/Executive Head treats all incidents of unfair treatment and any racism with due seriousness.

### **5 The role of the class teacher**

- 5.1** The class teacher ensures that all pupils are treated fairly, equally and with respect. We do not discriminate against any child.

**5.2** When selecting classroom material, teachers pay due regard to the sensitivities of all members of the class and do not provide material that is racist or sexist in nature. Teachers strive to provide material that gives positive images of ethnic minorities and that challenges stereotypical images of minority groups.

**5.3** When designing schemes of work, we use this policy to guide us, both in our choice of topics to study, and in how to approach sensitive issues.

**5.4** All our teachers challenge any incidents of prejudice or racism. Staff inform the Head of School/Executive Head of any such incidents.

## **6 Monitoring and review**

**6.1** It is the responsibility of our governing body to monitor the effectiveness of this Equal Opportunities policy. The governing body does this by:

- monitoring the progress of pupils of minority groups and comparing it to the progress made by other pupils in the school through assessment analysis of the SMT which is reported to governors;
- following staff appointment guidelines, so that no-one applying for a post at this school is discriminated against;
- requiring the Head of School/Executive Head to report to governors on an annual basis on the effectiveness of this policy;
- taking into serious consideration any complaints regarding equal opportunity issues from parents, staff or pupils;