

Greenfield Nursery School

Equality Information

Date: March 2017



Status:	Statutory / Non statutory
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Date of Next Review:	March 2021
Approved By:	
Date:	

At Greenfield Nursery School we are committed to ensuring equality of provision, education and opportunity for all children, families, staff, parents and carers receiving services from our services, irrespective of ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, age or beliefs as defined within existing equalities legislation. We aim to develop a culture of inclusion and diversity in which all those connected to Greenfield feel proud of their identity and able to participate fully in Nursery and Pre-School life. At Greenfield, we believe that diversity is a strength, which should be respected and celebrated by all those who work, learn, teach and visit here.

The achievement of children will be monitored by race, gender and disability and we will use this data to support children, raise standards and ensure inclusive teaching. We will tackle discrimination by the positive promotion of equality, challenging bullying and stereotypes and creating an environment which champions respect for all.

In fulfilling the legal obligations in Section 3 (of the Equality Act 2010), we are guided by the following principles:

Principle 1: All learners are of equal value

We see all learners and potential learners, and their parents and carers, as of equal value:

- whether or not they are disabled
- whatever their ethnicity, culture, national origin or national status
- whatever their gender and gender identity
- whatever their religious or non-religious affiliation or faith background
- whatever their sexual identity.

Principle 2: We recognise and respect difference

Treating people equally (Principle 1 above) does not necessarily involve treating them all the same.

Our policies, procedures and activities must not discriminate but must nevertheless take account of differences of life-experience, outlook and background, and in the kinds of barrier and disadvantage which people may face, in relation to:

- disability, so that reasonable adjustments are made
- ethnicity, so that different cultural backgrounds and experiences of prejudice are recognised
- gender, so that the different needs and experiences of girls and boys, and women and men,
are recognised
- religion, belief or faith background
- sexual identity.

Principle 3: We foster positive attitudes and relationships, and a shared sense of cohesion and belonging

We intend that our policies, procedures and activities should promote:

- positive attitudes towards disabled people, good relations between disabled and non-disabled people, and an absence of harassment of disabled people
- positive interaction, good relations and dialogue between groups and communities different
from each other in terms of ethnicity, culture, religious affiliation, national origin or national status, and an absence of prejudice-related bullying and incidents
- mutual respect and good relations between boys and girls, and women and men, and an absence of sexual and homophobic harassment.

Principle 4: We observe good equalities practice in staff recruitment, retention and development

We ensure that policies and procedures should benefit all employees and potential employees, for

example in recruitment and promotion, and in continuing professional development:

- whether or not they are disabled
- whatever their ethnicity, culture, religious affiliation, national origin or national status
- whatever their gender and sexual identity, and with full respect for legal rights relating to pregnancy and maternity.

Principle 5: We aim to reduce and remove inequalities and barriers that already exist

In addition to avoiding or minimising possible negative impacts of our policies, we take opportunities to maximise positive impacts by reducing and removing inequalities and barriers that may already exist between:

- disabled and non-disabled people
- people of different ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds
- girls and boys, women and men.

Principle 6: We consult and involve widely

We engage with a range of groups and individuals to ensure that those who are affected by a policy or activity are consulted and involved in the design of new policies, and in the review of existing ones. We consult and involve:

- disabled people as well as non-disabled
- people from a range of ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds
- both women and men, and girls and boys.
- people of all sexual orientations and preferences: LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) community

Principle 7: Society as a whole should benefit

We intend that our policies and activities should benefit society as a whole, both locally and nationally, by fostering greater social cohesion, and greater participation in public life of:

- disabled people as well as non-disabled
- people of a wide range of ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds
- both women and men, girls and boys
- people of all sexual orientations and preferences: LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) community

Principle 8: We base our practices on sound evidence

We maintain and publish quantitative and qualitative information showing our compliance with the public sector equality duty (PSED) set out in clause 149 of the Equality Act 2010.

Principle 9: Objectives

We formulate and publish specific and measurable objectives, based on the evidence we have collected and published (principle 8) and the engagement in which we have been involved (principle 7). The objectives which we identify take into account national and local priorities and issues, as appropriate. We keep our equality objectives under review and report annually on progress towards achieving them.

General Duty under the Equality Act 2010:

The purpose of this policy is to set out how our practice and policies have due regard to the need to:

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- **eliminate discrimination**, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act.
- **advance equality of opportunity** between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it
- **foster good relations** between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

The Specific Duties of the Act enable schools to meet their obligations under the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED)

The specific duties require schools to:

- *Publish annually information quantitative and qualitative, showing compliance with the public sector equality duty (PSED) set out in clause 149 of the Equality Act 2010.*
- *To set every four years one or more specific measurable equality objectives that further the aims of the equality duty.*

Protected Characteristics

The Equality Act 2010 protects pupils from discrimination and harassment based on protected characteristics. The protected characteristics for school provisions are:

- *age (for staff only)*
- *disability*
- *ethnicity and race*
- *gender (sex)*
- *gender identity and reassignment*
- *pregnancy, maternity and breast feeding*
- *religion and belief*
- *sexual orientation*

Disability

At Greenfield Nursery School we implement accessibility plans which are aimed at:

- increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the curriculum;
- improving the physical environment of schools to enable disabled pupils to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided;
- improving the availability of accessible information to disabled pupils.

Provision for disabled pupils is closely linked with the existing provisions for pupils with special educational needs. These are the same duties as previously existed under the DDA and have been replicated in the Equality Act 2010.

At Greenfield we will:

- Ensure that policies avoid discrimination and other prohibited conduct
- Collect attainment data which shows how children with different characteristics are performing
- Act on data analysis if it reveals that certain groups are underperforming
- Ensure our curriculum explores different cultures and promotes understanding of different religions
- Be involved with the local community
- Support our children to understand that other children come from different backgrounds
- Be prepared to explore and improve relationships between different groups of children within the school community, if the need arises

The Nursery class and Pre-School operate equality of opportunity in its day to day practice in the following ways:

Teaching and learning

We aim to provide all our children with the opportunity to succeed, and to reach the highest level of personal achievement. To do this, we will:

- Use contextual data to improve the ways in which we provide support to individuals and groups of children and families;
- Take account of the achievement of all children when planning for future learning and setting challenging targets;
- Ensure equality of access for all children and prepare them for life in a diverse society;
- Use materials that reflect the diversity of the setting, population and local community in terms of the Protected Characteristics, e.g. race and ethnicity, religion and belief, gender, or disability, without stereotyping;
- Promote attitudes and values that will challenge racist and other discriminatory behaviour or prejudice;
- Provide opportunities for children to appreciate their own culture and celebrate the diversity of other cultures;
- Seek to involve all parents and carers in supporting their child's development and education;
- Encouraging whole centre discussion of equality issues which reflect on social stereotypes, expectations and the impact on learning and development;

Admissions and exclusions

- Our admissions arrangements are fair and transparent, and do not discriminate on race, gender, disability family background or socio-economic factors.
- Exclusions will always be based on the Behaviour Policy. We will closely monitor exclusions to avoid any potential adverse impact and ensure any discrepancies are identified and dealt with.

Equality and Staff

- We comply fully with legislation which protects our staff (including teachers, early years' practitioners, admin staff, premises, governors) from discrimination on the grounds of gender, transsexual status, race, disability, sexual orientation, religion or belief, or age.
- With regard to disability, we make such reasonable adjustments as are necessary to prevent a disabled person being at a substantial disadvantage in comparison with a person who is not disabled. This includes discrimination in relation to recruitment, terms and conditions, environment, access to information, promotions, transfers, dismissals, training and employment practices (such as dress codes) and disciplinary procedures.
- We make efforts to ensure that the diversity of our workforce reflects that of our local community and wider society.
- We will ensure the safety and well-being of our staff and act on incidents of harassment and discrimination recognising that our staff may be either victims or perpetrators.
- We will provide training for staff to enable them to deal effectively with prejudice-related incidents
- We will tackle discrimination and will record all forms of prejudice-related incidents for example racism, homophobia, negative views of disabled people or sexism.

Our school is committed to meeting its public sector statutory duties. We understand that the duties apply to service delivery and employment and staff management as well as policy development and implementation.