

Equality information and objectives policy and accessibility plan

Leighton Middle School



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1. Aims

Our school aims to meet its obligations under the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) by having due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct that is prohibited by the Equality Act 2010
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share a relevant protected characteristic
- Foster good relations across all characteristics – between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it. The protected characteristics are:
 - Age
 - Disability
 - Gender reassignment
 - Marriage or civil partnership
 - Pregnancy and maternity
 - Race
 - Religion or belief
 - Sex
 - Sexual orientation

Our school aims to promote respect for difference and diversity in accordance with our values of working together to create a happy school where every member feels valued and able to achieve personal excellence.

2. Legislation and guidance

This document meets the requirements under the following legislation:

- [The Equality Act 2010](#), which introduced the Public Sector Equality Duty and protects people from discrimination
- [The Equality Act 2010 \(Specific Duties\) Regulations 2011](#), which require schools to publish information to demonstrate how they are complying with the Public Sector Equality Duty and to publish equality objectives

This document is also based on Department for Education (DfE) guidance: [The Equality Act 2010 and schools](#), the [technical guidance for schools from the Equality and Human Rights Commission](#) and [guidance from the Government Equalities Office on meeting the specific duties that support the Public Sector Equality Duty](#).

3. Roles and responsibilities

The governing board will:

- › Ensure that the equality information and objectives as set out in this statement are published and communicated throughout the school, including to staff, pupils and parents/carers
- › Ensure that the published equality information is updated at least every year, and that the objectives are reviewed and updated at least every 4 years
- › Delegate responsibility for monitoring the achievement of the objectives on a daily basis to the headteacher

4. Eliminating discrimination

The school is aware of its obligations under the Equality Act 2010 and complies with non-discrimination provisions.

Where relevant, our policies include reference to the importance of avoiding discrimination and other prohibited conduct.

Staff and governors are regularly reminded of their responsibilities under the Equality Act – for example, during meetings. Where this has been discussed during a meeting, it is recorded in the meeting minutes.

Staff receive training on the Equality Act as part of their induction, and all staff receive refresher training every year.

5. Advancing equality of opportunity

As set out in the DfE guidance on the Equality Act, the school aims to advance equality of opportunity by:

- › Removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by people that are connected to a particular characteristic they have (e.g. pupils with disabilities, or gay pupils who are being subjected to homophobic bullying)
- › Taking steps to meet the particular needs of people who have a particular characteristic
- › Encouraging people who have a particular characteristic to participate fully in any activities (e.g. encouraging all pupils to be involved in the full range of school societies)

In fulfilling this aspect of the duty, the school will:

- › Analyse internal data to determine strengths and areas for improvement, implement actions in response.
- › Use data to identify improvements for specific groups (e.g. declines in incidents of homophobic or transphobic bullying)

6. Fostering good relations

The school aims to foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not share it by:

- › Promoting tolerance, friendship and understanding of a range of religions and cultures through different aspects of our curriculum. This includes teaching in RE, citizenship and personal, social, health and

economic (PSHE) education, but also activities in other curriculum areas. For example, as part of teaching and learning in English/reading, pupils will be introduced to literature from a range of cultures

- Making pupils aware of our behaviour and anti-bullying policies and our EXPECTS.
- Holding assemblies dealing with relevant issues. Pupils will be encouraged to take a lead in such assemblies, and we will also invite external speakers to contribute
- Working with our local community.
- Encouraging and implementing initiatives to deal with tensions between different groups of pupils within the school. For example, our school council has representatives from different year groups and is formed of pupils from a range of backgrounds. Pupils are encouraged to participate in the school's activities, such as sports clubs.

7. Equality considerations in decision-making

The school ensures it has due regard to equality considerations whenever significant decisions are made. We consider equality implications before and at the time that we develop policy and make decisions and continue to review these on a continuing basis.

The school always considers the impact of significant decisions on particular groups. For example, when a school trip or activity is being planned, the school considers whether the trip:

- Cuts across any religious holidays
- Is accessible to pupils with disabilities
- Has equivalent facilities for boys and girls

8. Equality objectives

Objective 1

Train all members of staff and governors involved in recruitment and selection on equal opportunities and non-discrimination by the beginning of the next academic year. Training evaluation data will show that 100% of those attending have a good understanding of the legal requirements.

Why we have chosen this objective: to ensure fairness, transparency, and equality in our recruitment process, so that all candidates are considered without bias or discrimination.

To achieve this objective, we plan to: provide training for all staff and governors involved in recruitment, focusing on equal opportunities, non-discrimination, and the relevant legal requirements.

Progress we are making towards this objective: progress is strong, as all staff have now completed the training and demonstrated their understanding through an assessment-style quiz, with 100% achieving the required standard.

9. Monitoring arrangements

School-specific equality objectives will be reviewed by governors at least every 4 years.

This document will be reviewed by a member of SLT annually, to ensure continued compliance with the PSED.

This document will be approved by governors.

10. Links with other policies

This document links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan

Accessibility plan

Leighton Middle School

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1. Aims

Schools are required under the Equality Act 2010 to have an accessibility plan. The purpose of the plan is to:

- Increase the extent to which pupils with disabilities can participate in the curriculum
- Improve the physical environment of the school to enable pupils with disabilities to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided
- Improve the availability of accessible information to pupils with disabilities

Our school aims to treat all its pupils fairly and with respect. This involves providing access and opportunities for all pupils without discrimination of any kind.

The plan will be made available online on the school website, and paper copies are available upon request.

Our school is also committed to ensuring staff are trained in equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010, including understanding disability issues.

The school supports any available partnerships to develop and implement the plan.

Our school's complaints procedure covers the accessibility plan. If you have any concerns relating to accessibility in school, the complaints procedure sets out the process for raising these concerns.

2. Legislation and guidance

This document meets the requirements of [schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010](#) and the Department for Education (DfE) [guidance for schools on the Equality Act 2010](#).

The Equality Act 2010 defines an individual as disabled if they have a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' adverse effect on their ability to undertake normal day-to-day activities.

Under the [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Code of Practice](#), 'long-term' is defined as 'a year or more' and 'substantial' is defined as 'more than minor or trivial'. The definition includes sensory impairments, such as those affecting sight or hearing, and long-term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy and cancer.

Schools are required to make 'reasonable adjustments' for pupils with disabilities under the Equality Act 2010, to alleviate any substantial disadvantage that a pupil with disabilities faces in comparison with a pupil without disabilities. This can include, for example, the provision of auxiliary aid or adjustments to premises.

3. Action plan

This action plan sets out the aims of our accessibility plan in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.

AIM	CURRENT GOOD PRACTICE	OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DATE TO COMPLETE ACTIONS BY	SUCCESS CRITERIA
Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability	Our school offers an adaptive curriculum as appropriate. We use resources tailored to the needs of pupils who require support to access the curriculum. Curriculum resources include examples of people with disabilities. Curriculum progress is tracked for all pupils, including those with a disability. Targets are set effectively and are appropriate for pupils with additional needs. The curriculum is reviewed to ensure it meets the needs of all pupils. Intake Evenings in Year 4 enable parents to share additional information and access key members of staff. Handovers with lower and upper schools.	To ensure all staff are aware of pupil needs enabling learning tasks to be adapted either through expectation, task or use of specific resources.	One page profile training for new staff. IEPs/one page profiles will detail individual needs and adaptations required to ensure access to the curriculum. IEPs/one page profiles to be written in liaison with parents and pupils. Risk assessments to be completed as necessary. Individual Healthcare Plans to be created in liaison with parents and shared with staff. Allocation of support staff as appropriate to meet pupil needs. Liaison with outside agencies as appropriate.	All staff Parents Pupils	Ongoing	All pupil make progress towards their targets. All pupils can access the curriculum.

AIM	CURRENT GOOD PRACTICE	OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DATE TO COMPLETE ACTIONS BY	SUCCESS CRITERIA
Improve and maintain access to the physical environment	The environment is adapted to the needs of pupils as required. This includes: • Ramps (permanent and movable for need) • Corridor width • Disabled parking bays • Disabled toilets and changing facilities • Library shelves at wheelchair-accessible height • Handrails to support mobility around the school site. • Pathways re-tarmacked to ensure smooth access around the school. • Table raisers used in some classrooms.	Will change dependent on need.	Risk assessment to be completed for site users who may need adaptations due to mobility.	Health and safety officer SLT HOY	Ongoing	Site users can access site appropriately.

AIM	CURRENT GOOD PRACTICE	OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DATE TO COMPLETE ACTIONS BY	SUCCESS CRITERIA
Improve the delivery of information to pupils with a disability	Our school uses a range of communication methods to ensure information is accessible. This includes: • Internal signage • Modified large print • Dyslexia friendly fonts • FM microphone systems • Pictorial or symbolic representations (InPrint) • Overlays provided • Staff encouraged to print and display interactive resources on pastel • Staff trained on inprint to support lower ability pupils access the curriculum. • Use of star reader to enable access to a wide range of text for all abilities. • Wide range of books available in the library for all levels of reading.	To ensure all recommended specialist resources are used by staff and pupils as appropriate (within reason of the school budget).	Liaison with outside agencies. Sharing the advice of outside agencies with staff.	Parents Pupils All staff	Ongoing	Pupils are able to access the information provided within lessons and around the school site as appropriate.

4. Monitoring arrangements

This document will be reviewed every 3 years, but may be reviewed and updated more frequently if necessary. It will be reviewed by SLT.

It will be approved by the governing body.

5. Links with other policies

This accessibility plan is linked to the following policies and documents:

- Health and safety policy
- Equality information and objectives (public sector equality duty) statement for publication
- Special educational needs (SEN) information report
- SEND policy
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy