

Hurstbourne Tarrant Church of England Primary School

‘Love of Learning, Love of Life, Love of Christ!’

Equalities Policy



Our School Christian Values = REACH

R=espect E=ffort A=im High C=are and love H=onesty

Headteacher Signature:	Date: November 2024
Chair of Governors Signature:	Date: November 2024
Date for renewal: November 2025	

Our School's Christian Vision

Through ‘Love of Learning, Love of Life, Love of Christ,’ we aim to ensure that our school is a place which enables children to fulfil their journey together in mutual respect within an environment that enables children to have a positive purpose in life being true to themselves and others.

Our School Values

Respect – valuing each other and celebrating differences.

Effort – always trying our best.

Aim High – setting ourselves new challenges.

Care and Love – selfless service to others, putting others before ourselves.

Honesty – living with integrity, saying what we mean and mean what we're saying.

Introduction

We welcome our duties under the Equality Act 2010 as both a provider of education and as an employer.

We believe that all pupils and members of staff should have the opportunity to fulfil their potential whatever their background, identity and circumstances. We are committed to creating a community that recognises and celebrates difference within a culture of respect and co-operation. We appreciate that a culture which promotes equality will create a positive environment and a shared sense of belonging for all who work, learn and use the services of our school. We recognise that equality will only be achieved by the whole school community working together – our pupils, staff, governors and parents/carers.

This document outlines the principles which will guide our approach to working with our school community and enabling an open culture.

For staff and prospective staff, this policy should be read in conjunction with the school's Employment Equality Policy.

National and Legal Context

We recognise that we have duties under the Equality Act 2010 in relation to the school community to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations in relation to age (applicable only to staff), disability, gender reassignment, race, sex, maternity and pregnancy, religion or belief, sexual orientation and marriage and civil partnership (applicable only to staff).

We also recognise that we have a duty under the Education & Inspections Act 2006 to promote community cohesion, i.e. developing good relations across different cultures and groups.

We also appreciate that these duties reflect the international human rights standards as expressed in the UN Convention on Rights of the Child, the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities, and the Human Rights Act 1998.

School Context

- The school has 100 pupils on roll, which is smaller than the average size for a primary school.
- The percentage of boys is 47%. The percentage of girls is 53%, which is broadly in line with other primary schools.

- The percentage of children with Free School Meals take up is low at 8% in 2024 when compared to the average in other primary schools.
- The percentage of children from minority ethnic groups is low (5% in 2024) when compared to the average in other primary schools.
- The percentage of pupils whose first language is not English is low (5% in 2024) when compared to the average in other primary schools.
- The percentage of pupils with SEN support is 19% in 2024, which is higher than the average in other primary schools.
- The percentage of pupils with SEN that are supported by an EHCP is 3% as of 2023-2024. This is lower than in other primary schools.
- The pupil community is comprised of 51% of children from within the catchment area, with the remaining pupils coming from the surrounding areas (Vernham Dean, Chute, Charlton, Stoke, St. Mary Bourne, Wildhern and Andover).

Principles

To fulfil our legal obligations, we are guided by a number of principles.

1. All pupils, families and staff are of equal value

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

- Whether or not they are disabled
- Whatever their ethnicity, culture, national origin or national status
- Whatever their sex
- Whatever their gender identity
- Whatever their religious and non-religious affiliation or faith background
- Whatever their sexual orientation
- Whatever their marital status
- Whether they are currently pregnant or have recently given birth
- Whatever their age

2. We recognise and respect difference

We recognise that treating people equally does not necessarily involve treating them all the same. We recognise that our policies, procedures and activities must not discriminate but must take account of diversity and the kinds of barriers and disadvantage that staff, parents/carers or pupils may face in relation to their protected characteristics:

- Disability – we understand that reasonable adjustments may need to be made.
 - Sex – we recognise that girls and boys, men and women have different needs.
 - Gender reassignment – we recognise an individual has the protected characteristic of gender reassignment if they are proposing to undergo, is undergoing or has undergone a process (or part of a process) for the purpose of reassigning their sex by changing physiological or other attributes of sex.
 - Religion and belief – we acknowledge that reasonable requests in relation to religious observance and practice may need to be made and complied with.
 - Ethnicity and race – we appreciate that all have different experiences as a result of our ethnic and racial backgrounds.
 - Age – we value the diversity in age of staff, governors, parents and carers.
 - Sexual orientation – we respect that individuals have the right to determine their own sexual identity and that they should not experience disadvantage as a result of their preference.
 - Marriage and civil partnership – we recognise that our staff, parents and carers may make their own personal choices in respect of personal relationships and that they should not experience disadvantage, as a result of the relationships they have.
3. Pregnancy and maternity – we believe that our staff, parents and carers should not experience any unfair disadvantage, as a result of pregnancy or having recently given birth.

4. 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 and interaction between groups and communities different from each other

- an absence of harassment, victimisation and discrimination in relation to any protected characteristics

5. We observe good equalities practice in relation to staff

We ensure that our policies and practices for all staff and potential staff throughout the employment lifecycle, i.e. from recruitment through to the cessation of employment and beyond, are applied fairly and consistently across all groups with full respect for legal rights, taking into account aspects applicable to particular groups (e.g. duty to make reasonable adjustments for disabled staff).

6. We aim to reduce and remove inequalities and barriers that already exist

We intend that our policies, procedures and activities avoid or minimise any possible negative impacts and we aim to reduce inequalities that exist between groups and communities different from each other.

7. We consult and involve to ensure views are heard

In our development of policies, we engage with groups and individuals, including pupils who are affected by a policy or activity to ensure that their views are taken into account. For policies and activities affecting pupils, we will take account of views expressed at school council; for parents, through parent governor representation and for staff, through staff governor representation. Where necessary, we will consult more widely with specific groups.

8. We aim to foster greater community cohesion

We intend that our policies, activities and curriculum offer foster greater social cohesion and provide for an equal opportunity to participate in public life irrespective of the protected characteristics of individuals and groups.

9. We base our practices on sound evidence

We maintain and publish information annually to show our compliance with the public sector equality duty, set out under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. Our current equality information can be found in Appendix A to this policy statement.

Where schools have less than 150 staff, the Governing Body will not be required to publish information in relation to their staff, and therefore are only required to publish pupil-related data.

10. We set ourselves specific and measurable equality objectives

We develop and publish specific and measurable objectives every four years based on the evidence that we have gathered (principle 8) and the engagement we have been involved in (principle 7).

The objectives can be found in Appendix B to this policy statement and take into account both national, county and school level priorities.

We will set ourselves new objectives every four years, but keep them under review and report annually on progress towards achieving them.

Application of the principles within this policy statement:

The principles outlined in the policy statement will be applied and reflected in:

- The delivery of the school curriculum
- The teaching and learning within the school
- Our practice in relation to pupil progress, attainment and achievement
- Our teaching styles and strategies
- Our policies and practice in relation to admissions and attendance
- Our policies and practice in relation to staff
- Our care, guidance and support to pupils, their families and staff
- Our policies and practice in relation to pupil behaviour, discipline and exclusions
- Our partnership working with parents and carers
- Our contact with the wider school community

Addressing prejudice and prejudice-related bullying

The school is opposed to all forms of prejudice including, but not limited to prejudice related to protected characteristics. We will ensure that prejudice-related incidents in relation to staff and pupils are recorded and dealt with appropriately.

Roles and responsibilities

The governing body is responsible for ensuring that the school complies with legislation, and that this policy and its related procedures and action plans are implemented and that arrangements are in place to deal with any concerns or unlawful action that arises.

The headteacher is responsible for implementation of this policy, ensuring that all staff are aware of their responsibilities and given appropriate training and support and for taking appropriate action in any cases of unlawful discrimination, harassment or victimisation.

All staff are expected to work in accordance with the principles outlined in this policy to:

- promote an inclusive and collaborative ethos in their practice
- deal with any prejudice-related incidents that may occur
- plan and deliver curricula and lessons
- support pupils in their class who have additional needs

Date approved by the Governing Body: 20th November 2024

Date for policy review: November 2025

We recognise that the public sector equality duty has three aims, to:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct under the Act.
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

We have considered how well we currently achieve these aims with regard to the protected groups under the Equality Act (race, disability, sex, gender re-assignment, age, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, religion or belief and sexual orientation).

We have also involved staff, pupils, parents and others in the following ways:

- pupil questionnaires
- parent questionnaires
- involvement of the School Council

Pupil-related data

Information	Evidence and commentary
Attainment in Reading - by gender and ethnicity 2023 - 2024	Key Stage 2 Results Scaled Score – 107.6 Percentage making ARE or above All: 73% Male (4 pupils): 100% Female(7 pupils): 57% 100% of cohort had English as first language.
Attainment in Writing - by gender and ethnicity 2023 - 2024	Percentage making ARE or above All: 55% Male (4 pupils): 50% Female (7 pupils): 57% 100% of cohort had English as first language.
Attainment in Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar - by gender and ethnicity 2023 - 2024	Key Stage 2 Results Scaled Score – 106.8 Percentage making ARE or above All: 91% Male (4 pupils): 100% Female (7 pupils): 86% 100% of cohort had English as first language.
Attainment in Maths - by gender and ethnicity 2023 - 2024	Key Stage 2 Results Scaled Score – 101 Percentage making ARE or above All: 55% Male (4 pupils): 75% Female (7 pupils): 42% 100% of cohort had English as first language.
Attendance 2023 – 2024.	Male: 95.18% Female: 96.13% English as Additional Language (EAL): 97.76% Non EAL: 95.58%

Participation in after school clubs as at September 2024	<p>63% of children attending clubs are boys. (55 spaces)</p> <p>37% of children attending clubs are girls. (32 spaces)</p> <p>37.5% of our FSM children attend at least one club.</p> <p>80% of our EAL children attend at least one club.</p>
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Other information

Information	Evidence and commentary
<p>Attendance at parents' evenings</p> <p>October 2024</p>	<p>85% of the children had parents who attended Parents' Evening.</p> <p>67% (2 out of 3) parents whose child has an EHCP attended. (The other parent has arranged a meeting after half term)</p> <p>86% of the children who are on our SEND register had a parent who attended Parents' Evening. (19 out of 22)</p> <p>62.5% of PP parents attended (5 out of 8)</p> <p>All parents who did not attend Parents' Eveing were offered alternative appointments.</p>
<p>Governor representation as at</p> <p>November 2024</p>	<p>45% Male, 55% Female</p> <p>This relates to 9 governors.</p>
<p>Volunteers as at</p> <p>September 2024</p>	<p>100% Female</p> <p>100% British White</p> <p>This relates to 2 people – one who volunteers in Spring Class and the other volunteer listens to readers in Winter Class.</p>

Date of publication of this appendix: 20th November 2024

Date for review and re-publication: November 2025

Equality Objectives

Appendix B

We recognise that the public sector equality duty has three aims, to:

- *eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct under the Act*
- *advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not*
- *foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not*

We have considered how well we currently achieve these aims with regard to the protected groups under the Equality Act (race, disability, sex, gender re-assignment, age, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, religion or belief and sexual orientation).

We have also involved staff, pupils, parents and others in the following ways:

- *parent questionnaires*
- *involvement of the School Council*
- *staff survey*
- *contact with parents representing pupils with particular protected characteristics*

Having referred to and analysed our equality information, we have set ourselves the following objective:

Objective: The increase the number of girls who attend after school clubs.

Date of publication: 20th November 2024

Date for review and re-publication: November 2025

NOTE: The Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) Regulations 2011 require Governing Bodies to publish equality objectives at intervals of no more than four years but schools should publish detail on progress towards these objectives on an annual basis and publish this detail on the school's internet site.

Governance

SharePoint ID:	HRDOCID-561776108-84577	
Version and date of publication:	V1.1	September 2018
	V1.2	4 February 2021
Owner:	Education Personnel Services	