



## **Accessibility, Equality and Diversity Policy** **September 2021**

### **AIMS AND VALUES**

Great Moor Community Infant School is a welcoming school where everyone is valued highly and where our key values are at the heart of all we do.

We are committed to the development of the whole child within a supportive, secure and creative environment. A broad, balanced and appropriate curriculum provides equal opportunity for all pupils to maximise their potential regardless of age, sex, race, colour, religion or disability.

We endeavour to promote positive relationships with parents, governors and members of the wider community.

At Great Moor Community Infant School, we aim to promote equality and tackle any form of discrimination and actively promote harmonious relations in all areas of school life. We seek to remove any barriers to access, participation, progression, attainment and achievement. We take seriously our contribution towards community cohesion.

We aim to;

- provide a secure environment in which all our children can flourish and be healthy, stay safe, enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution, and enjoy economic well-being
- provide a learning environment where all individuals feel a sense of belonging
- prepare children for their next stage in learning and life in a diverse society in which children are able to see their place in the local, regional, national and international community
- include and value the contribution of all families to our understanding of equality and diversity
- provide positive non-stereotyping information about different groups of people regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, religion or age
- plan systematically to improve our understanding and promotion of diversity
- actively challenge discrimination and disadvantage
- make inclusion a thread which runs through all our activities

To achieve these aims we will;

- involve stakeholders in the development, review, evaluation, and impact assessment of all relevant improvement plans, policies and procedures
- collect and analyse data to ensure all groups are progressing well and no group is subject to disadvantage
- use all available information to set suitable learning challenges for all, respond to pupils' diverse needs and overcome any potential barriers to learning
- ensure that the wider school curriculum makes explicit and implicit provision to promote and celebrate diversity
- have high expectations of behaviour which demonstrates respect to others

## **LEADERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE**

Great Moor Infant School is committed to;

- being proactive in promoting good relationships and equality of opportunity across all aspects of school life and the wider community
- encouraging, supporting and enabling all pupils and staff to reach their potential and make a positive contribution
- working in partnership with families, the local authority (LA) and the wider community to establish, promote and disseminate inclusive practice and tackle discrimination ensuring that our *Equality and Diversity Policy* is adhered to

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

### The Governing Body

It is the Governing Body's responsibility to;

- ensure that the school complies with equality legislation
- meet requirements to publish equality schemes
- ensure that the school's policy and its procedures and strategies are carried out and monitored with appropriate impact assessments informing future plans
- follow the LA's admissions policy, which is fair and equitable in its treatment of all groups
- monitor attendance and take appropriate action where necessary
- have equal opportunities in staff recruitment and professional development and membership of the Governing Body
- provide information in appropriate, accessible formats
- be involved in dealing with serious breaches of the policy

## The Headteacher

It is the headteacher's responsibility to;

- implement the policy and its strategies and procedures;
- ensure that all staff receive appropriate and relevant continuous professional development
- actively challenge and take appropriate action in any cases of discriminatory practice
- deal with any reported incidents of any harassment, violence or bullying in line with LA guidance
- ensure that all visitors and contractors are aware of, and comply with, the school's equality and diversity policy
- keep governors informed about progress

## All Staff

It is the responsibility of all staff to;

- be vigilant in all areas of the school for any type of harassment and bullying
- deal effectively with any incidents from overt name-calling to the more subtle forms of victimisation caused by perceived differences
- identify and challenge any bias and stereotyping within the curriculum
- promote equality and good relations and not discriminate on grounds of race, gender, religion, age or sexual orientation
- promote an inclusive curriculum and whole school ethos which reflects our diverse society
- keep up to date with equality legislation, development and issues by attending relevant training and accessing information from appropriate sources

## **BREACHES OF THE POLICY**

All breaches of the policy will be rigorously followed up using the appropriate procedures and reported to the Governing Body and LA as required.

## **POLICY PLANNING AND REVIEW**

Whilst we have a duty to develop and publish equality schemes in relation to both gender and disability, we at Great Moor Infant School are considering all aspects of diversity and equality in this comprehensive policy to be followed by a specific equality and diversity action plan in relation to access, gender and race equality covering a three-year period.

## Policy planning and development

- In the planning and development stage of policy-making, we will ensure we have consulted and taken into account stakeholder views.
- Achievement and attainment will be analysed to ensure progress for all.
- Attendance and exclusion data will be reviewed to ensure no over-representation of any one group.
- Our target-setting processes ensure appropriate, challenging targets are set in relation to identifiable groups as well as individual pupils / cohorts.

## Monitoring and Quality Assurance

- Each pupil's progress is monitored and tracked. The resulting data is analysed in respect of gender, race, ability or additional needs, looked-after status.
- In addition to monitoring to rule out any potential disadvantage, quality assurance procedures ensure the school meets its duty to positively promote diversity.
- The data collected is used to inform further school planning, target-setting and decision-making.

The legal and local framework for this policy is:

Race Relations Act 1976 (as amended in 2000)

Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (as amended in 2005)

Children Act 2004

Equality Act 2006

Education and Inspections Act 2006

Duty to Promote Community Cohesion, Education and Inspections Act 2006

Stockport Diversity and Equality Policy and Comprehensive Equality Scheme