Grazeley Parochial Primary School

"Be courageous. Be strong. Do everything in love."

1 Corinthians 16 v13-14 We are a loving community of courageous learners, building resilience and hope for the future based on our caring Christian foundation.

EQUALITY INFORMATION AND OBJECTIVES POLICY

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REVIEWED BY :	Headteacher
APPROVED BY:	FGB
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1	March 2024	New policy using The Key model
2	March 2025	

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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 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 it
- Foster good relations across all characteristics between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it

2. Legislation and guidance

This document meets the requirements under the following legislation:

- <u>The Equality Act 2010</u>, which introduced the Public Sector Equality Duty and protects people from discrimination
- <u>The Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) Regulations 2011</u>, 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: <u>The Equality Act 2010 and schools</u>.

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
- 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

The headteacher will:

- Promote knowledge and understanding of the equality objectives among staff and pupils
- Monitor success in achieving the objectives and report back to governors

All school staff are expected to have regard to this document and to work to achieve the objectives as set out in section 8.

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.

New staff receive training on the Equality Act as part of their induction, and all staff receive refresher training every September as part of the INSET session.

The school has a designated member of staff for monitoring equality issues, and an equality link governor. They regularly liaise regarding any issues and make senior leaders and governors aware of these as appropriate.

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

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

- Publish attainment data each academic year showing how pupils with different characteristics are performing
- Analyse the data referenced above to determine strengths and areas for improvement, implement actions in response and publish this information
- Make evidence available identifying improvements for specific groups (e.g. declines in incidents of homophobic or transphobic bullying)
- Publish further data about any issues associated with particular protected characteristics, identifying any issues which could affect our own pupils

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
- Holding Collective Worship dealing with relevant issues. Pupils will be encouraged to take a lead in such worship and we will also invite external speakers to contribute
- Working with our local community. This includes inviting leaders of local faith groups to speak in Collective Worship, and organising school trips and activities based around the 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. All pupils are encouraged to participate in the school's activities, such as sports clubs. We also work with parents to promote knowledge and understanding of different cultures

- We have developed links with people and groups who have specialist knowledge about particular characteristics, which helps inform and develop our approach
- Working with the GRT community to further understand and celebrate the culture and traditions of the community. Meeting regularly with members of the community to understand concerns around RSE.

7. Equality considerations in decision-making

The school ensures it has due regard to equality considerations whenever significant decisions are made.

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

- Equality Objective 1 To improve outcomes in reading, writing and maths for those children with low starting points, including those with special educational needs, and those who are disadvantaged. The school's Pupil Premium strategy statement specifically communicates the school's rationale, resourcing and approach to mitigate any differences in performance for those pupils eligible for PP and those with SEND needs.
- Equality Objective 2 To further refine the PSHE curriculum to reflect a 21st century community with direct reference to the Equalities Act and Protected Characteristics. Within our curriculum design, we will continue to build cultural capital through many learning opportunities.
- Equality Objective 3 To challenge the gender gap through gender-neutral pedagogies. We will continue
 to provide quality education for all with a specific focus on raising aspirations, equal and equitable
 opportunities with a particular focus on the progress and attainment of boys.
- Equality Objective 4-To review the range of high-quality texts used across the curriculum ensuring a range of texts that reflect the increasingly diverse nature of our school community and to build further cultural capital and awareness across the school

9. Monitoring arrangements

The governing board will update the equality information we publish, at least every year.

This document will be reviewed by the headteacher at least every 4 years.

This document will be approved by the governing board.

10. Links with other policies

This document links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Risk assessment