

Emmanuel Junior Academy

Equality Policy 2022-2024



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'Be Respectful, Be Courageous, Be Safe'

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1. Introduction

*‘Do all the good you can
By all the means you can
In all the ways you can
In all the places you can
At all the times you can
To all the people you can
As long as ever you can.’
John Wesley*

VISION

To create a welcoming Christian community where every child is viewed as a special person created and loved by God. Every member of our school community is valued for who they are and empowered to be the best they can be. We support every child to develop into lifelong learners who are resilient, socially skilled, and successful in all aspects of their lives.

‘Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.’ (Proverbs 22:6)

OUR VALUES

We strive to be respectful, courageous and safe at all times, understanding that God is with us.

‘Encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.’

(Thessalonians 5:11 ESV)

“Be Respectful, Be Courageous, Be Safe.”

2. Aims

At Emmanuel Junior Academy we welcome our duties under the Equality Act 2010. We aim to meet its obligations under the public sector equality duty 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.
- At Emmanuel Junior Academy, we are committed to ensuring equality of education and opportunity for all pupils, staff, parents and carers receiving services from the school, irrespective of race, gender, disability, faith, religion or socio-economic background. We aim to develop a culture of inclusion and diversity in which all those connected to the school feel proud of their identity and able to participate fully in school life.
- The achievement of pupils will be monitored by race, gender and disability and we will use this data to support pupils, 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. We believe that diversity is a strength, which should be respected and celebrated by all those who learn, teach and visit our schools.

3. 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.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

The Governors will:

- Ensure that the equality information and objectives as set out in this statement are published and communicated throughout the schools, including to staff, pupils and parents, and that they are reviewed and updated at least once every three years
- Delegate responsibility for monitoring the achievement of the objectives on a daily basis to the Executive Headteacher and Head of School.

The Governors will meet with the designated member of staff for equality every term, and other relevant staff members, to discuss any issues and how these are being addressed.

They will:

- Ensure they are familiar with all relevant legislation and the contents of this document
- Attend appropriate equality and diversity training
- Report back to the full Board of Directors regarding any issues

The Executive Headteacher and Head of School will:

- Promote knowledge and understanding of the equality objectives amongst staff and pupils
- Monitor success in achieving the objectives and report back to Directors.
- The Designated Member of Staff for Equality will:
- Support the Headteachers in promoting knowledge and understanding of the equality objectives amongst

- staff and pupils
- Support the Headteachers in identifying any staff training needs and deliver training as necessary.

All Staff will:

- Have regard to this document and to work to achieve the objectives as set out in section 8.
- Ensure that all pupils are treated fairly, equally and with respect, and will maintain awareness of the school's Equality Plan.
- Strive to provide material that gives positive images based on race, gender and disability, and challenges stereotypical images.
- Challenge any incidents of prejudice, racism or homophobia, and record any serious incidents, drawing them to the attention of the headteacher.
- Teachers will support the work of ancillary or support staff and encourage them to intervene in a positive way against any discriminatory incidents.

5. Eliminating Discrimination

The Academy 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 are regularly reminded of their responsibilities under the Equality Act, for example during meetings.

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

The School have a designated member of staff for monitoring equality issues. They regularly liaise other senior leaders and Governors are aware of these as appropriate.

Harassment on account of race, gender, disability or sexual orientation is unacceptable and is not tolerated within the school environment.

All staff are expected to deal with any discriminatory incidents that may occur. They are expected to know how to identify and challenge prejudice and stereotyping; and to support the full range of diverse needs according to a pupil's individual circumstances.

Racist and homophobic incidents and other incidents of harassment or bullying are dealt with by the member of staff present and escalated in line with the Safeguarding policy.

All incidents are reported to the Head of School who then reports to the Governors on a termly basis.

What is a discriminatory incident?

Harassment on the grounds of race, gender, disability, sexual orientation or other factors such as socioeconomic status, can take many forms including verbal or physical abuse, name calling, exclusion from groups and games, unwanted looks or comments, jokes and graffiti.

A racist incident is defined by the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry Report (1999) as: 'any incident which is perceived to be racist by the victim or any other person'.

Types of discriminatory incidents that can occur are:

- Physical assault against a person or group because of their colour, ethnicity, nationality, disability, sexual orientation or gender
- Use of derogatory names, insults and jokes • Racist, sexist, homophobic or discriminatory graffiti
- Provocative behaviour such as wearing racist, sexist, homophobic or discriminatory badges or insignia
- Bringing discriminatory material into school
- Verbal abuse and threats
- Incitement of others to discriminate or bully due to victim's race, disability, gender or sexual orientation
- Discriminatory comments in the course of discussion
- Attempts to recruit others to discriminatory organisations and groups
- Ridicule of an individual for difference e.g. food, music, religion, dress etc
- Refusal to co-operate with other people on grounds of race, gender, disability or sexual orientation.

Responding to and reporting incidents The School will ensure that pupils and staff are aware of how they report incidents. All staff, teaching and non-teaching, will view dealing with incidents as vital to the well-being of the whole Academy.

6. Advancing Equality of Opportunity

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

- Pupil achievement is monitored by race, gender and disability and any trends or patterns in the data that may require additional action to narrow the gap are addressed
- There is an inclusive approach to ensuring all pupils are given the opportunity to make a positive contribution to the life of the school e.g. through involvement in the Pupil leadership team and Spirit Council collective worship; courageous advocacy etc.
- All children can take part in all aspects of the curriculum, including educational visits and journeys; lunchtime activities; PE and dance and collective worship
- Extended school activities such as breakfast and after-school clubs consider pupil needs and access issues and pupils attending reflect the diversity of the school population in terms of race, gender, disability and socio-economic status.

The Academy will provide:

- Extra and additional support for pupils who are under-achieving, in order to make progress in their learning and their personal wellbeing, e.g. ensuring that children with visual impairment have accessible texts; that children with hearing impairment have an enhanced acoustic classroom environment
- Additional support for parents of under-achieving children (e.g. reporting progress; discussing needs)

7. Fostering Good Relations

Emmanuel aim 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.
- 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. This includes inviting leaders of local faith groups to speak at assemblies, 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, central to our behaviour policy is the implementation of restorative practice approaches.

8. Equality Considerations in Decision making

Emmanuel Junior Academy ensures it has due regard to equality considerations whenever significant decisions are made. The School will always consider 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

9. Equality Objectives

We understand the principle of the Act and the work needed to ensure that those with protected characteristics are not discriminated against and are given equality of opportunity.

A protected characteristic under the act covers the groups listed below:

- age
- disability
- gender reassignment
- marriage and civil partnership
- pregnancy and maternity
- race
- religion or belief
- sex and sexual orientation

To do this we will collect data related to the protected characteristics above and analyse this data to determine our focus for our equality objectives. The data will be assessed across our core provisions as a school. This will include the following function:

- Admissions
- Attendance
- Attainment
- Exclusions
- Prejudice related incidents

Objective 1: To raise equality awareness with students and staff, ensuring tolerance and respect towards individuals who identify with any of the protected characteristics.

Why we have chosen this objective: To help foster good relationships across all characteristics between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it by having the need and regard to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

To achieve this objective, we plan to: Implement and embed a culture of celebrating differences. To have a calendar in place for collective worship which explores the protected characteristics. To begin the year by having have a whole school theme based on inspirational people linked to the protected characteristics. To make links throughout our curriculum to equality.

Objective 2: To ensure in all our work, including our curriculum design, that we promote role models and heroes that young people positively identify with, who reflect and broaden the school's diversity in terms of race, gender and disability etc.

Why we have chosen this objective: To ensure that pupils have examples of people from diverse backgrounds and abilities to inspire, motivate and help shape their character and personality as they grow. To help pupils to recognise appropriate behaviour and try to acquire admirable qualities by seeing examples of successful people from all walks of life.

To achieve this objective, we plan to: Hold a whole school theme based on inspirational people linked to the protected characteristics. Display examples of inspirational people prominently throughout the School. Ensure that teachers are using a wide variety of examples of role models in their lessons, engaging in positive discussions on diversity and promoting the idea that it is possible for everyone to achieve their goals in life regardless of race, gender or disability. Collective worship will promote the rights respecting values and equal opportunities ethos of the school and displaying examples of these as constant reminders throughout the School.

Objective 3: To ensure all leaders involved in recruitment and selection are committed to, trained and knowledgeable on equal opportunities and non-discrimination. This will be shown through all actions of leaders and evidenced through training evaluation data, which will show that 100% of those attending have a good understanding of the legal requirements.

Why we have chosen this objective: To build on our current processes and procedures to ensure that all staff involved in the recruitment process have received the most up-to-date training available to raise awareness of the principles of the Equalities Act.

To achieve this objective, we plan to: Ensure that at least one person on each interview panel is currently trained in safer recruitment and that all leaders are appropriately trained in equal opportunities by September 2023

10. Monitoring Arrangements

We continue to make regular assessments of pupils' learning and use this information to track pupil progress. As part of this process, we regularly monitor achievement by ethnicity, gender and disability, to ensure that all groups of pupils are making the best possible progress and use this to inform strategies to raise achievement.

We also regularly track and monitor the children's attendance and incidents of behaviour by their demographics and report this to governors.