



Coten End Primary School

Equality Policy and Objectives

Reviewed : February 2020

Next Review: February 2024

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "S. J. S.", written over a white rectangular background.

Head teacher

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "K. L. S.", written over a white rectangular background.

Chair of Governors

1. Policy Statement

This school community believes in the equal value of all people. Everyone has the right to be treated with dignity and respect. It is therefore unacceptable within the school ethos for anyone to discriminate against, harass or victimize a person based on the 'protected characteristics' as defined by the Equality Act 2010:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation
- Marriage and civil partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity.

2. Aims

Our school aims 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

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 governing body 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, and that they are reviewed and updated at least once every four years
- Delegate responsibility for monitoring the achievement of the objectives on a daily basis to the headteacher

All school staff are expected to have regard to this document and to work to achieve the objectives as set out in section 9.

5. 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. New staff receive training on the Equality Act as part of their induction, and all staff receive refresher training online or face to face on an annual basis.

6. 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 which are connected to a particular characteristic they have.
- 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.

These apply to staff, pupils and the wider school community.

7. 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.
- Holding assemblies dealing with relevant issues in which pupils will be encouraged to take a lead in and external speakers invited to contribute to.
- Working with our local community including 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, 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

8. 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 and special educational needs
- Has equivalent facilities for boys and girls

9. Equality objectives

Objective 1: Develop, implement and monitor a PSHE curriculum that fully takes into account the Equality Act 2010.

Objective 2: When teaching English and reading, pupils will be introduced to literature from a range of cultures and pupils will learn about significant individuals with protected characteristics who have made a contribution to the arts and sciences.

Objective 3: Develop and strengthen the quality of the workforce whilst increasing the representation of teachers from local black and minority ethnic communities over a 4-year period.

Objective 4: Ensure all pupils make good progress through access to an exceptional curriculum which promotes equality, celebrates diversity and promotes community cohesion.

10. Monitoring arrangements

The headteacher will update the equality information we publish at least every year.

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

This document will be approved by the governing body.

11. Links with other policies

This document links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Risk assessment