CEFN SAESON COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL



EQUALITY POLICY

Equality Policy

1. Aims

At Cefn Saeson Comprehensive school, we seek to ensure that all pupils make meaningful progress in learning and achieve their full potential.

In doing so we are:

- dedicated to learning
- guided by values
- striving to serve

The pursuit of excellence for all emphasises that equality is about much more than simply narrowing gaps in examination performance. Rather the pursuit of excellence seeks to:

- foster aspirations
- maximise opportunity
- nurture positive relationships and
- promote wellbeing.

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 (latest update of act is 2022)
- 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

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, 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

The headteacher will:

- promote knowledge and understanding of the equality objectives amongst staff and pupils
- monitor success in achieving the objectives and report back to governors

Members of the Leadership and Extended Leadership Teams will:

- support the headteacher in promoting knowledge and understanding of the equality objectives amongst staff and pupils
- support the headteacher in identifying any staff training needs, and deliver training as necessary
- ensure they are familiar with all relevant legislation and the contents of this document
- attend appropriate equality and diversity training
- liaise with relevant members of staff to discuss any issues and how these are being addressed

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

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.

The school's Professional Learning programme addresses Equality Act issues through relevant CPD activities.

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 which 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 (e.g. enabling Muslim pupils to pray at prescribed times)
- encouraging people who have a particular characteristic to participate fully in any activities (e.g. encouraging all pupils to be involved in the full range of school societies)

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

- analyse student progress and attainment data in relation to groups with different characteristics 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)
- analyse 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 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, 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

The school uses a range of quality review systems to evaluate performance. These currently include:

- The BIG Award for Anti-Bullying
- The Stonewall Champion programme

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

Adopted by the Governing Body on 16th November 2022

Chair of Governors Signature

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