



The Marlborough Science Academy GP09 - Equality Policy	
Responsible Governing Body Committee:	Personnel
Policy type:	Statutory
Date of Origin:	June 2016
Adopted by:	Governing Body
Author:	Mark Fitzgibbon
Location:	
Filename:	

Review Due Date	Review Completed	Amendments Y/N
	October 2016	Y
October 2020		

Other policies relating to this policy

GP50 – Code of Conduct Policy

GP57 – Harassment and Bullying Policy

GP45 – Recruitment Policy

GP23 – Whole School Behaviour Policy

GP02 – Curriculum Policy

Accessibility Plan

Single Equality Policy

At The Marlborough Science Academy, we are committed to ensuring equality of education and opportunity for all students, staff, parents and carers receiving services from our school, irrespective of race, gender, gender reassignment, disability, faith or religion, socio-economic background or any other **protected** characteristic. We aim to develop a culture of inclusion and diversity in which all those connected to our school feel proud of their identity and are able to participate fully in school life.

We will ensure that all equality strands are woven into the everyday working of our school, particularly in relation to formulating policy and practice around both delivery of our service and employment but also in relation to other functions such as setting budgets, making appointments and funding.

The progress of all our students will be monitored by race, gender and disability and we will use this data to support students, raise standards and ensure high quality inclusive teaching. We will tackle discrimination by the positive promotion of equality, challenging bullying and stereotypes and creating an environment in which we respect all and shape futures. We believe that diversity is a strength, which should be respected and celebrated by all those who learn, teach and visit here.

Purpose of Policy

The purpose of this policy is to reflect how we are integrating equality into the school's core priorities and functions, which enables us to:

- Demonstrate how promoting equality and eliminating discrimination can help to raise standards.
- Ensure that equality and diversity are part of the school's core business both as a provider of education and as an employer.
- Promote community cohesion and good relations between students and staff of different backgrounds through education.
- Place the school in a position, which is regarded by everyone as an environment that affords respect and fair treatment of all.

Applicability

This Equality Policy applies to all of the school's students, staff, governors, parents/carers, visitors and community users.

The policy supports our responsibilities in relation to the Public Sector Equality Duty under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. This states that, in carrying out their functions, public bodies, including schools, are required to have due regard to the need to:-

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not;
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

The Equality Act 2010 has broadened the groups that are protected to include nine protected characteristics. We all have one or more of the protected characteristics, so the Act protects everyone against unfair treatment. The protected characteristics are:-

- (i) **Age:** where this is referred to, it refers to a person belonging to a particular age (e.g. 32 year olds) or range of ages (e.g. 18 - 30 year olds).
- (ii) **Disability:** a person has a disability if s/he has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on that person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.
- (iii) **Gender Reassignment:** the process of transitioning from one gender to another.
- (iv) **Marriage and Civil Partnership:**
In England and Wales marriage is no longer restricted to a union between a man and a woman but now includes a marriage between a same-sex couple. Same-sex couples can also have their relationships legally recognised as 'civil partnerships'. Civil partners must not be treated less favourably than married couples (except where permitted by the Equality Act).
- (v) **Pregnancy and Maternity:** Pregnancy is the condition of being pregnant or expecting a baby. Maternity refers to the period after the birth, and is linked to maternity leave in the employment context. In the non-work context, protection against maternity discrimination is for 26 weeks after giving birth, and this includes treating a woman unfavourably because she is breastfeeding.
- (vi) **Race:** Refers to the protected characteristic of Race. It refers to a group of people defined by their race, colour, and nationality (including citizenship) ethnic or national origins.
- (vii) **Religion or Belief:** Religion has the meaning usually given to it but belief includes religious and philosophical beliefs including lack of belief. Generally, a belief should affect your life choices or the way you live for it to be included in the definition.
- (viii) **Sex:** A man or a woman.
- (ix) **Sexual Orientation:** Whether a person's sexual attraction is towards their own sex, the opposite sex or to both sexes.

This plan extends, however, to cover all aspects of vulnerability, Children Looked After and those with Child Protection plans.

Aims and Objectives

At **Marlborough**, we will ensure compliance with relevant legislation and that no one with a protected characteristic receives less favourable treatment.

We aim to provide all our students with the opportunity to succeed, and to reach the highest level of personal achievement. To do this, we will:

- Use contextual data to improve the ways in which we provide support to individuals and groups of students;
- Monitor achievement data by ethnicity, gender and disability and action any gaps;
- Take account of the achievement of all students when planning for future learning and setting challenging targets;
- Ensure equality of access for all students and prepare them for life in a diverse society;
- Use materials that reflect the diversity of the school, population and local community in terms of race, gender and disability, without stereotyping;
- Promote attitudes and values that will challenge racist and other discriminatory behaviour or prejudice;
- Provide opportunities for students to appreciate their own culture and celebrate the diversity of other cultures;
- Seek to involve all parents/carers in supporting their child's education;
- Encourage classroom and staffroom discussion of equality issues which reflect on social stereotypes, expectations and the impact on learning.

Reasonable Adjustments

At **Marlborough** we are aware of our duty under the Equality Act 2010 to provide reasonable adjustments for disabled members of our school community. A disability is defined as a physical or mental impairment that has a long-term and substantial adverse effect on the student's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

We take positive steps to ensure that disabled students can fully participate in the education provided by the school and that they can enjoy the other benefits, facilities and services that we provide for students.

Staff recruitment, professional development and training

Marlborough is committed to providing equality of opportunity for all and ensuring that all stages of recruitment and selection are fair. Recruitment and selection procedures will be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that applicants are not discriminated against on the grounds of race, nationality, gender, religion, age, disability, marital status, pregnancy and maternity or sexual orientation. Marlborough acknowledges that unfair discrimination can arise on occasion and so will ensure that the equal opportunities policy outlined in this plan is the foundation for all its activities.

Where a candidate is known personally to a member of the selection panel it will be declared before shortlisting takes place. It may then be necessary to change the selection panel to ensure that there is no conflict of interest and that equal opportunities principles are adhered to.

Breaches of the policy

Breaches of this policy will be dealt with in the same ways that breaches of other school policies are dealt with, as determined by the head teacher and governing body.

Roles and responsibilities

The responsibilities of the Governing Body

- To adopt and monitor the Equality Policy and equality objectives.
- Ensure the school takes all reasonable steps to ensure that its employees do not carry out unlawful discriminatory actions or behaviour.
- Support and guide the school to have 'due regard' for equality in all its functions.
- Ensure the school complies with the two 'specific' duties to publish equality information and objectives.
- To designate a named governor with responsibility in this area to ensure that the school eliminates unlawful discrimination and promotes equality of opportunity.

The Head teacher

The Head teacher is responsible for implementing the policy; for ensuring that all staff are aware of their responsibilities and are given appropriate training and support; and for taking appropriate action in any cases of unlawful discrimination.

All staff are expected to:

- promote an inclusive and collaborative ethos in their classrooms
- deal with, and report, any prejudice-related incidents that may occur
- support all students in their classes
- keep up-to-date with equalities legislation relevant to their work

- have an inclusive and collaborative approach to their dealings with each other

Students are expected to:

- treat each other with respect and courtesy
- explore diversity with a healthy and positive approach
- value diversity
- speak out if they witness or are subject to any inappropriate language or behaviour or feel that they have been treated unfairly

SMSC

How we foster excellent relations and promote students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development: We believe that SMSC is an integral aspect of school life and as such it permeates through teaching and learning, the pastoral system, assemblies and relationships preparing our community for living and working in modern day Britain and adhering to British and our School's values.

- We provide all students with opportunities to learn about the experiences and achievements of different communities and cultures.
- We ensure that the humanities curriculum challenges racism and stereotypes through teaching about key historical and political events.
- Events are calendared throughout the year to celebrate difference and to raise awareness. These may be the focus of lessons in KS3 or and or reflections. These include Fair Trade and Black History Month.
- The curriculum is supported by resources that provide positive images that reflect the diverse communities of modern Britain and our school community.
- Photos are selected to advertise the school and around the school to show a variety of difference ethnicities and cultures.

Bullying or harassment on the basis of race, ethnicity and culture are dealt with in line with school policy. Incidents which involve racism or racist language are recorded and reported to governors, on an individual basis and patterns are noted.

Monitoring and review

This single equality plan will be reviewed annually by the governing body, unless there is specific reason for it to be reviewed earlier (for example an incident involving members of the school community or new legislation). Governors will review how effective it is in tackling discrimination, promoting access and participation, equality and good relationships between different groups, and that it does not disadvantage particular sections of the community. Governors will also review evidence that it is being put into practice in school by staff and students, and whether there is any need for extra training or development sessions across the whole school to ensure it is promoted and implemented as much as possible.

Information will be gathered through:

- identification of children and young people, parents, carers, staff and other users of the school representing the different protected characteristics. This helps us develop and monitor the scheme. Comprehensive and sensitive efforts are made to collect accurate information and meet security of information requirements, in addition to our duty to secure accurate information relating to ethnicity and first language;
- student attainment and progress data relating to different groups;
- children's and young peoples' views, actively sought and incorporated in a way that values their contribution;

- information about how different groups access the whole curriculum and how they make choices between subject options;
- sports and activities choices of all groups;
- uptake of the extended school offer by group;
- exclusions data analysed by group;
- records of bullying and harassment on the grounds of any equality issue;
- data on the recruitment, development, and retention of employees;
- outcomes of actions taken to secure the involvement of parents and others who have been identified as difficult to engage.

At regular intervals throughout the year the senior leadership team will provide **monitoring reports** for review by the governing body. These will include:

- progress against targets relating to equality and future plans
- school population
- recruitment and retention
- key initiatives.

This policy links to other policies and in general the principles of equality will apply to all other school policies.

Published Data

We will publish the following data on the school's website:-

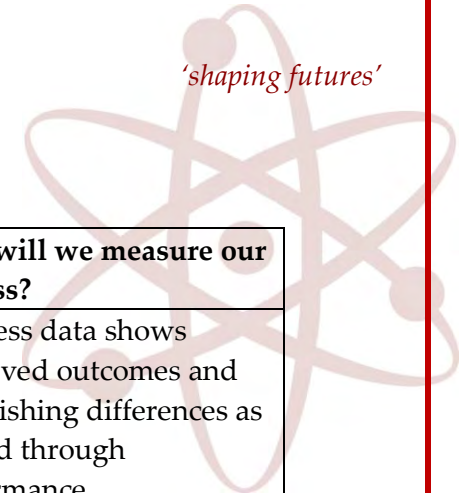
- Equality Objectives will be published at least every year

Concerns or complaints

In the first instance a senior member of staff should be contacted. If issues or concerns remain unresolved these should be raised in accordance with the schools Complaints Policy.

Check list for school staff and governors

- The school collects information on race, disability and gender with regards to both students and staff, e.g. student achievement, attendance, exclusions and staff training.
- The school analyses student achievement in terms of progress and standards for different groups and takes action when there trends or patterns indicate a need.
- The school sets Equality Objectives to improve outcomes for vulnerable students and monitors progress on reaching these objectives.
- The school ensures that all staff understand and implement the key requirements of the Equality Policy.
- The curriculum includes opportunities for all students to understand and celebrate diversity and difference.
- All groups of students are encouraged to participate in school life and make a positive contribution, e.g. through class assemblies and student voice.
- The school monitors bullying and harassment of students in terms of difference and diversity (i.e. different groups) and takes action if there is a cause for concern.
- Visual displays and multi-media resources reflect the diversity of the school community.
- Minority ethnic, disabled and both male and female role models and those of vulnerable groups are promoted positively in lessons, displays, discussions and class assemblies.
- The school environment is accessible to students, staff and visitors to the school.
- Open evenings and other events which parents, carers and the community attend are held in accessible parts of the school and issues such as language barriers are considered.
- The accessibility needs of parents, students and staff are considered in the publishing and sending out of information.



The Marlborough Science Academy Equality Objectives and action plan 2016-17

Objective	Actions	Who will be involved?	Timescale	How will we measure our success?
To raise the attainment of disadvantaged students	See School Development Plan Pupil Premium monitoring Progress mentoring roll out for Year 11 and data analysis by progress through line management and assistant head teacher, intervention by subjects and DSEN Differentiation key principles and information to teachers	SLT SENCO Subject leaders Subject teachers	Medium term	Progress data shows improved outcomes and diminishing differences as a trend through performance management, lesson observations and data analysis it is evident all learners access the work and are provided with sufficient challenge and support. Students feel well supported -objective feedback from external sources, learning counts interviews, parental feedback External professionals brought in to support individuals as and when required

Objective	Actions	Who will be involved?	Timescale	How will we measure our success?
To improve the attendance of all students to 96%	See SDP Behaviour and attendance Engagement with parents Review rewards PP attendance highlighted on DoL Sims Homepage Data analysed and taken to SLT weekly. AIO meeting Deputy Head teacher every 3 weeks	SLT DoL Form tutors Attendance improvement team AIO	Medium term	Progress data shows improved outcomes and diminishing differences. Students feel well supported learning counts interviews, parental feedback. External professionals brought in to support individuals as and when required

Equalities Duty - Action Plan 2016-17

Inclusion and equality of opportunity are central to the School Development Plan. Through compliance with the Equalities Duty we ensure every student has equal access to all areas of life.

The table below outlines how we demonstrate 'due regard' to the general duty of the Equality Act 2010

Eliminate Unlawful Discrimination, Harassment and Victimisation	Advance Equality of Opportunity	Foster Good Relations
<p>Policies: DSEN, Equality, Anti-bullying, Behaviour, Teaching and Learning</p> <p>Accessibility Plan.</p> <p>CPD and PD focuses on differentiation, reasonable adjustments, teaching and learning to ensure progress for all and safeguarding.</p> <p>A behaviour log is maintained by all Directors of Learning and Pastoral Admin and incidents of discrimination are noted and monitored by Senior Leadership Team via pastoral meetings.</p> <p>Restorative justice is undertaken where appropriate.</p> <p>Staff are reminded of reasonable adjustments required for certain individuals as necessary e.g. by email, by notices in briefing.</p> <p>Senior Leadership Team oversee strategic development with a focus on these areas</p>	<p>Where necessary the Learning Support Department will coordinate external professional provision for individuals or groups: Speech and Language therapists, Educational Psychologists, Occupational Therapists, sensory support, behaviour support, specialist teachers, School Nurse, CAMHS Pastoral teams will liaise with Children and Young People's Services around TAF and CIN in conjunction</p> <p>In-depth analysis of attainment data at each data catch takes place at a senior level and is shared with subject leaders, tutors and mentors. Special access exam dispensation is organised.</p> <p>Auxiliary aids currently include: iPads, laptops, colour overlays, full copying and enlarging facilities, and any others as necessary.</p>	<p>The form tutor is the primary contact for parents/carers.</p> <p>Transition programme liaison with primary schools; summer school for Year 6-7</p> <p>Marlborough Values foster attention on respect and team work as core values and these are rewarded as key in lesson and out of lesson qualities</p> <p>PSHCEE schemes of work, assemblies and tutor time focus on teamwork /friendships and promoting tolerance and respect.</p> <p>Philosophy and Ethics of work explore cultures and religions to teach understanding and tolerance.</p> <p>SMSC grid map and audit highlight cross curricular and subject coverage.</p> <p>Students are aware of a key member of staff they can talk to who will listen to any</p>

Eliminate Unlawful Discrimination, Harassment and Victimisation	Advance Equality of Opportunity	Foster Good Relations
<p>where required following review. Regular liaison with governors which informs and updates all areas of the SDP.</p>	<p>PSHCEE schemes of work, tutorial programme and assembly content are regularly adapted to reflect current and topical issues.</p> <p>Lessons are regularly observed by subject leaders and SLT to ensure accessibility and progress against teacher standards.</p> <p>Progress for disadvantaged groups is a key driver of the School Development Plan Provision Map is kept and updated regularly to ensure all staff are aware of relevant barriers to learning that some students face and support students in reflecting upon any barriers to learning.</p>	<p>concerns and act upon them if necessary. Report a concern highlighted in student planner and on website. E-Safety module completed by students on line.</p>