

Name of school: Coit and Ecclesfield Primary Federation

Member of staff responsible: Louise Chadwick

Review date 01.10.26



EQUALITY STATEMENT

Approved by:	K. Corke	Date: 01.10.25
Last reviewed on:	01.09.24	
Next review due by:	October 2026	

Introduction

The Equality Statement sets out the approach that our school is taking to meet the general and specific requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty introduced by the Equality Act 2010.

By placing an equality perspective in all of our policies and practices, we recognise that we are not thinking about people as an homogenous group but as distinct groups with differing needs, characteristics and behaviours. This enables us to address the issues in creating an inclusive whole school environment. This policy is for all pupils, parents, staff and governors irrespective of age, race, disability, sexual orientation, sex, marriage and civil partnerships, pre-gender reassignment, religion and beliefs.

We have carefully considered and analysed the impact of this policy on equality and the possible implications for pupils with protected characteristics, as part of our commitment to meet the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.

Signature:

Headteacher.....*L. Chadwick*..... **Date.....01.10.25.....**

Signature:

Chair of Governors.....*K. Corke*..... **Date.....**

Aim:

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

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.

Coit and Ecclesfield Primary Federation has developed this Equality Statement to help us to meet our Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010.

At Coit and Ecclesfield Primary Schools, 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 or 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.

The Equality Act 2010 has simplified anti-discrimination laws by having a single equality Act. This makes it easier for people to understand and comply with the law. The 2010 Act has also strengthened protection in some situations.

The Equality Act covers all aspects of school life such as the treatment of:

- pupils and prospective pupils
- parents and carers
- employees
- local community

There are nine protected characteristics covered by the Act under which it is unlawful to treat people unfairly. The protected characteristics are:



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

These characteristics are explained in more detail at the end of this document.

Every person has one or more of the protected characteristics; therefore, the Act protects everyone against unfair treatment.

The Equality Act makes it unlawful to treat someone differently, either through direct and indirect discrimination, harassment, victimisation and by failing to make a reasonable adjustment for a disabled person.

Age applies to a school as an employer, but not regarding the treatment of pupils and prospective pupils.

As a school we welcome our duties under the Equality Act 2010. The general duties are to:

- eliminate discrimination,
- advance equality of opportunity
- foster good relations

The general duty is supported by specific duties, these are to:

- Publish information which demonstrates our compliance with the duty to have due regard for the three aims of the general duty and to annually repeat this.
- Prepare and publish our specific and measurable objectives to achieve the three aims of the duty and undertake this no later than in four years' time.

To do this effectively 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, but we will also analyse available data relating to the context of our local community, including hate crime data and demographic information.

In relation to school provision, we will pay particular attention to the following functions:

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

We recognise that these duties reflect international human rights standards as expressed in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities, and the Human Rights Act 1998.

In fulfilling our legal obligations, we will:

- Recognise and respect diversity
- Foster positive attitudes and relationships, and a shared sense of belonging
- Observe good equalities practice, including staff recruitment, retention and development
- Aim to reduce and remove existing inequalities and barriers
- Consult and involve widely
- Strive to ensure that society will benefit

Eliminating discrimination, advancing equality of opportunity and fostering good relationships

Cohesion

- As a school we use our Relationship and Health Education as an approach to tackle bullying, and to enable pupils to recognise and manage their own and other pupils' emotions and feelings. **It is generally**

recognised that taking a whole school approach to tackling bullying is the best way to reduce incidents and promote an environment where bullying is not acceptable.

- Pupils at Coit and Ecclesfield can feel confident that member of staff will listen to their problem.
- We have various events in school to celebrate diversity and to encourage interaction.
- We have developed links with older members of our local community, both in terms of inviting such individuals into school for events e.g. Family assemblies, Christmas Choir Concerts, Family visit days
- The schools are developing-good links with local businesses and shops.
- The schools embed local facilities and resources (e.g. Chapeltown Library; St Mary's Church, Sheffield Cathedral, Sheffield Buddhist Centre, Sheffield Synagogue, Ecclesfield Comprehensive, Thorncliffe Swimming Baths, Chapeltown Park) in its curriculum, In addition to local links and activities, we have developed international links and fundraising, for example charitable work such as Children In Need, Macmillan Cancer Research, Sport Relief and Comic Relief.

Inclusion

- We carefully analyse pupil achievement regarding several different vulnerable groupings within the school (gender, MEG, EAL, FSM, Pupil Premium G&T New starters, SEND) and other vulnerable pupils and develop action points for the school accordingly.
- We have established a support group for parents/carers of pupils with SEND/complex needs Educational Needs), with termly meetings within the school in the form of structured conversations
- We have a well-developed nurture/pastoral capacity for pupils with more complex/emotional needs such as Peer Mediators, learning mentors, external counsellors, MAST support.

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 Relationship and Health Education (RHE) 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 characteristics, which helps inform and develop our approach.

Coit and Ecclesfield Primary Schools are Trauma Informed Schools

Coit and Ecclesfield Primary Schools believe that children's mental health and wellbeing is paramount to provide a safe, stimulating and enriched learning environment. Our school ethos of ensuring that children become confident, well-rounded individuals reflects our passion for ensuring that children can engage with their health and wellbeing on an age-appropriate level. We recognise and value the importance of children being able to articulate their emotions and offer opportunities to do so with a trusted, nurturing adult within the school community.

To ensure children can regulate themselves when they are feeling dysregulated, staff have a range of wellbeing activities that can be utilised throughout the week and are factored into weekly sessions, ensuring that children are able to safely wrap language around and manage their emotions.

Monitoring

Leadership

Within our schools all staff and Governors are responsible for ensuring that the school meets its duties under the Equality Act 2010.

Eliminating harassment and bullying

The school will not tolerate any form of harassment and bullying of pupils or our staff.

Training

We will provide relevant training by using all suitable delivery methods.

Procurement and Contractors

We will take steps to ensure that contractors working at the school operate within the requirements of our Equality Statement.

Visitors to the School

We will take steps to ensure that all visitors to our school including parents act within the requirements of our Equality Statement.

Publishing the Statement

We will publish our statement **as a separate policy within school and upon the school's website**

Reporting our progress

We will report progress against the Duty through our regular reporting mechanisms, **to the Full Governing Body of the school.**

Reviewing and Revising the Equality Statement

We will review and revise the Statement no later than one year from publication of this statement.

How we will meet the General Duty & Specific Duty

We are required to meet the three aims under the General Duty as set out by the Equality Act 2010 and our approach to gathering information and objectives is set out at Annex 2 and 3.

Annex 1

Equalities Information

We have reviewed how we currently perform as a school in the context of the requirements of the General Duty and the Protected Characteristics.

In collating equality information, we have:

- Identified evidence of what policies and practice are already in school and identified gaps.
- Explored how we engage with protected characteristics.
- Analysed the effectiveness of our approach to equality.

Our equality evidence highlights:

Age

- Our workforce profiling data highlights that there is a balance of a range of ages 20-30 30-40 40-50 50-60 relatively high proportion of our staff are currently
- All our policies and procedures are based on model policies of Sheffield City Council and we will always take these into account when carrying out recruitment

Disability 2024

SEND Pupils including pupils at school support, with EHCPs.

- We have disabled access to all classrooms in the main building.

Gender Reassignment

- All of our policies and procedures are based on the model policies of Sheffield City Council.

Marriage and Civil Partnership

- All of our policies and procedures are based on the model policies of Sheffield City Council.

Pregnancy and maternity

- All of our policies and procedures are based on the model policies of Sheffield City Council.
- The school currently has a predominantly older female workforce.

Ethnicity Data September 2025

Table

- We carefully analyse pupil achievement with regard to MEG /EAL groupings and develop action points for the school accordingly.
- The curriculum includes a range of activities involving parents and international events within school.
- 0% of our governors are currently from multi-ethnic groups.

Religion or belief

- We have frequent activity around religious observance.
- The children make regular visits to different places of worship.
- We invite people from different faiths into school to deliver assemblies/workshops

Gender

- Our staffing profile is mostly female with 3 males
- We currently have 31 staff in total
- Our governing body is comprised of 7 females 3 males, a male chair and a female vice chair.
- We try to actively make our governing body representative of the community that we serve.
- Flexible working is considered where possible and practical.
- We carefully analyse pupil achievement for gender, SEND and ethnicity.

Sexual orientation

Although we do not collect or retain information in this regard, as a school all our policies and procedures are based on the model policies of Sheffield City Council and any member of staff or the Governing Body would be supported as necessary.

Annex 2

Our **Equalities objectives and action plan** sets out the following actions

2025-2027

Equality Objective	Characteristic affected	Finish by	Lead	Monitoring by	Outcome
To reduce the gap between attendance of Disadvantaged children and non-disadvantaged pupils so that they are in line with national averages	SEND, EAL	July 2026		SENDCO, Class teachers, SLT and Governors Louise Chadwick	2025-2026 Evaluation
To reduce the gender gap in attainment between boys and girls in KS2 in writing	Gender	July 2026	Teachers	SENCO and Governors	2025-2026 Evaluation
To actively make our staff and governing body representative of the community that we serve	Race	July 2026			

Protected characteristics

This page gives you more information on each of the nine protected characteristics.

Age

Where this is referred to, it refers to a person belonging to a particular age (for example 32-year-olds) or range of ages (for example 18- to 30-year-olds).

Disability

A person has a disability if she or 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.

Gender reassignment

The process of transitioning from one gender to another.

Marriage and civil partnership

Marriage is no longer restricted to a union between a man and a woman but now includes a marriage between a same-sex couple. [1]

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).

[1] Section 1, Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013, Marriage and Civil Partnership (Scotland) Act 2014.

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.

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.

Religion and belief

Religion has the meaning usually given to it but belief includes religious and philosophical beliefs including lack of belief (such as Atheism). Generally, a belief should affect your life choices or the way you live for it to be included in the definition.

Sex

A man or a woman.

Sexual orientation

Whether a person's sexual attraction is towards their own sex, the opposite sex or to both sexes.