

Bridge Hall Primary School



Equality Policy

April 2026

Date Approved by the Governing Body April 2026

Date to be reviewed by the Governing Body April 2029

EQUALITY STATEMENT

Legal Duties

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

- eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- advance equality of opportunity
- foster good relations

We understand the principles 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 (for employees not for service provision)
- disability
- race
- sex (including issues of transgender)
- gender reassignment
- maternity and pregnancy
- religion and belief
- sexual orientation
- marriage and civil partnership (for employees)

In advancing equality of opportunity:

- we aim to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by people due to their protected characteristics;
- we aim to meet the needs of people with certain protected characteristics where these are different from the needs of other people;
- we encourage people with certain protected characteristics to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is disproportionately low.

To meet our general duties, listed above, the law requires us to do some specific duties to demonstrate how we meet the general duties. These are to:

- publish equality information – to demonstrate compliance with the general duty across its functions (We will not publish any information that can specifically identify any child)

- prepare and publish equality objectives 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 functions:

- admissions
- attendance
- attainment and progress
- exclusions
- prejudice related incidents
- participation

Our objectives will detail how we will ensure equality is applied to the functions listed above. However, where we find evidence that other functions have a significant impact on any particular group, we will include work in this area. We use evaluation and data collection to inform our decision-making and assess the impact on equality of our decision-making, policies and practices. We also welcome our duty under the Education Act 2011 to demonstrate how the education we provide meets the needs of the range of pupils at the school. 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
- tackle prejudice and promote understanding between people from different groups
- observe good equalities practise, including staff recruitment, retention and development, and procurement
- aim to reduce and remove existing inequalities and barriers
- consult and involve widely
- strive to ensure that the communities within, around and beyond our school will benefit
- follow guidance from Bury Children's Service HR on equality in recruitment, selection and employment
- use the school's complaints procedure initially to deal with any complaints under the Equality Act 2010, use the Questions Procedure and, for any complaints not resolved internally, use the local authority complaints procedure.

Our Ethos/mission is that Bridge Hall Primary School is a nurturing learning community, committed to preparing children to thrive, with high expectations for excellence in all they do. Our Vision: is that children are proud to be a part of our local and school community and recognise their contribution towards it.

School Motto: 'Every Child Matters and Everyday Counts,' embody our school values of Excellence, Inclusion and Community.

Our Aims:

- We discover and realise the uniqueness in everyone
- We learn about and respect the people with whom we share our world
- We constantly develop and acquire the skills needed to achieve personal success
- We strive to ensure each individual has confidence and high self-esteem
- We learn to treat and respect others the way we like to be treated School:
 - To create a stimulating environment that reflects our values and promotes a sense of self-worth in everyone.
 - To build strong collaborative partnerships with families and the local community.
 - To provide a rich, broad, balanced and creative curriculum that combines excellence in teaching with an enjoyment of learning.
 - To recognise and plan for all learning styles and interests, whilst ensuring all children have equal access to the curriculum enabling them to reach their full potential.
 - To promote life-long learning through high quality continual professional development, effective communication with all stakeholders and by developing a learning culture throughout the school, for all.
 - To promote social, cultural, moral and spiritual development, supporting pupils, staff and stakeholders to become confident and responsible members of society.
 - To establish an atmosphere in which every child has a positive self-image and where individual achievements are valued by all.

To include all members of the school community in the process of school improvement and self-evaluation. Addressing Prejudice Related Incidents This school is opposed to all forms of prejudice and we recognise that children and young people who experience any form of prejudice related discrimination may fare less well in the education system. We provide both our pupils and staff with an awareness of the impact of prejudice to reduce the likelihood of any incidents. If incidents occur we address them immediately and report them to the Local Authority using the online reporting system.

Responsibility

We believe that promoting equality is the whole school's responsibility:

School - Community Responsibility

Governing Body- Involving and engaging the whole school community in identifying and understanding equality barriers and in the setting of objectives to address these. Monitoring progress towards achieving equality objectives. Publishing data and publishing equality objectives.

Headteacher - As above including:

Promoting key messages to staff, parents and pupils about equality and what is expected of them and can be expected from the school in carrying out its day to day duties. Ensuring that all the school community receives adequate training to meet the need for delivering equality, including pupil awareness. Ensuring that all staff are aware of their responsibility to record and report prejudice related incidents.

ALL STAFF - It is the responsibility of all staff to:

- set suitable learning challenges, enabling all children to experience success and achieve as high as standard as possible through appropriate support
- deliver the right outcomes for children through an inclusive curriculum
- respond to children's diverse learning needs by: - creating effective learning environments, securing motivation and concentration providing equality of opportunity through flexible and appropriate teaching approaches using appropriate assessment approaches and setting appropriate targets for success overcoming potential barriers to learning for all individuals' groups of children
- be vigilant in all areas of the school for any type of harassment and bullying – recording any incidents
- deal effectively with all incidents from overt name-calling to the more subtle forms of victimisation caused by perceived differences
- identify and challenge bias and stereotyping within the curriculum and the school's culture
- promote equality and good relations and not discriminate on grounds of any protected characteristics
- promote an inclusive curriculum and whole school ethos which reflects our diverse society
- keep up to date with equality legislation, development and issues by attending relevant training and accessing information from appropriate sources

COMMUNITY MEMBERS / VISITORS

We will ensure that the whole school community is aware of the Single Equality Policy and our published equality information and equality objectives by publishing them on the school website.

Breaches

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

Monitor and Review We will review our objectives concerning any changes in our school profile and at least every four years. Our objectives will sit in our overall school improvement plan and therefore will be reviewed as part of this process.

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