

Equality Duty Review



East-the-Water Primary School	
Date adopted and equality objectives set: January 2025	
Year 1 data and summary: Jan 2026	Year 2 data and summary:
Year 3 data and summary:	Formal equality objective review:

Sitting alongside our Equality and Diversity Policy, our objectives and data are reviewed in this document, our Equality Duty Review.

Contents

You can navigate through this policy via this page

1. [Equality statement](#)
2. [Scope and purpose](#)
3. [Equality Act 2010](#)
4. [Responsibilities](#)
5. [Current and End of Year data and summary](#)
6. [Equality objectives](#)
7. [Appendix](#)

1. Equality Statement

At East-the-Water Primary School, we are committed to ensuring equality of opportunity for all pupils, staff, parents and carers irrespective of race, gender, disability, belief, sexual orientation, sex/gender identity and age.

Our aim is to develop a culture of diversity and inclusion in which all those within East-the-Water's community can celebrate their identity and participate fully in experiences and learning. We enable our children to take part as fully as possible in every part of the school's life, by developing each child's self-confidence, by recognising their strengths, and by encouraging them to achieve their full potential.

We tackle discrimination through the positive promotion of equality, by challenging bullying and stereotypes and by creating a safe welcoming environment that champions respect for all.

East-the-Water Primary has a firm belief that diversity is a strength that must be respected and celebrated by all of those who learn with us and visit us.

2. Scope and Purpose

This Equality Duty Review covers all individuals working at all levels, including staff at all levels, consultants, contractors, trainees, home-workers, part-time and fixed-term staff, volunteers, governing board members, casual workers, and agency staff. It also applies to the wider community such as children, job applicants, ambassadors, and parents/guardians.

The purpose of the Equality Duty Review is to set out our approach, through our equality objectives, to promoting equality and diversity and how we will tackle discrimination and challenge social exclusion. It outlines our commitment, actions, reviews, and how we comply with the law to ensure that equality and diversity are promoted in our establishment and that our staff, children, and community are not subject to, and do not commit, unlawful acts of discrimination.

3. Equality Act 2010

The [Equality Act 2010](#) protects people from discrimination and harassment. If someone thinks they have been discriminated against they may take their complaint to a court or Employment Tribunal (if they are an employee). But the act also places duties on public authorities (including establishments) to be pro-active about addressing inequalities. The Public Sector General Duty (Section 149) states: that a public authority must give due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, and any other prohibited conduct.
- Advance equality of opportunity.
- Foster good relations between people.

'Advance equality of opportunity' means to remove or minimise disadvantage, meet people's needs, take account of disabilities, and encourage participation in

public life.

Failure to observe these public sector duties could result in a judicial review, but also put establishments at risk of discriminatory practice.

These duties apply to eight **protected characteristics**:

- **Age** - A person of a particular age (e.g. 32 year old) or a range of ages (e.g. 18 - 30 year olds). Age discrimination does not apply to the provision of education, but it does apply to work.
- **Disability** - A person has a disability if they have, or has had, a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. It includes discrimination arising from something connected with their disability such as use of aids or medical conditions. HIV, multiple sclerosis, and cancer are all considered as disabilities, regardless of their effect.
- **Gender reassignment** – Transgender people may have the body of one gender but feel that they are the opposite gender. The word transgender is sometimes used interchangeably with terms such as transsexual or gender-variant but usually has a narrower meaning and different connotations than gender variant, including non-identification with the gender assigned at birth.

This relates to a person who is proposing to undergo, is undergoing or has undergone gender reassignment (the process of changing physiological or other attributes of sex, therefore changing from male to female, or female to male). Children as young as five may begin to show signs of [gender dysphoria](#) and therefore it is relevant in any establishment environment.

- **Marriage and civil partnership** – Marriage and civil partnership discrimination does not apply to the provision of education, but it does apply to staff and other adults.
- **Pregnancy and maternity** - Maternity refers to the period of 26 weeks after the birth (including stillbirths), which reflects the period of a woman's Ordinary Maternity Leave entitlement in the employment context. In employment, it also covers (where eligible) the period up to the end of her Additional Maternity Leave. Within education it also protects children who are pregnant.
- **Race** - A person's colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin. It includes Travellers and Gypsies as well as White British people.
- **Religion and belief** - 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. Religion and belief discrimination does not prevent an establishment from carrying out collective worship or other curriculum-based activities, but children may withdraw from acts of collective worship.
- **Gender identity** - Gender identity refers to a person's understanding and experience of their own gender, it is their internal sense of self. Everyone has a gender identity; for some people, it corresponds with the gender assigned at birth, and for some others, it does not. Gender identities are expansive and do not need to be confined within one collectively agreed-upon term. An individual's appearance may not inform you of their gender identity. It is important to understand that one's gender identity does not direct the way we are or the clothing we choose to wear.
- **Sexual orientation** - A person's sexual orientation, is the part of their identity that relates to who they find attractive. Although it is in the name, the attraction to other people does not have to be sexual, it could be romantic, or connection-based. Some people are attracted to a particular gender, or genders, some people are attracted to who the person is (their morals, values, humour, intelligence, etc.) and for some it is a combination of the two. Sexual orientation equality is as relevant in a primary school environment as it is in a secondary school. For example, a child may have an older sibling or parent who is gay. Children may experience friends 'questioning' or disclosing at any age. Establishments with a particular religious ethos cannot discriminate against non-heterosexual children or parents/guardians.

We understand that an individual's gender identity and sexual orientation is individual to them.

The legal duties to eliminate harassment and foster good relations make it clear that establishments must address bullying and prejudice-related incidents, based on a protected characteristic, such as racism or homophobic bullying.

The expectation in law is not only for establishments to respond when an incident occurs, but to also take steps to prevent those incidents from occurring or escalating.

Because of its relevance to the duty to eliminate harassment and foster good relations, this means that establishments should [report](#) incidents to the local authority, publish information on performance, and set objectives about bullying and prejudice-related incidents. What is published will vary according to establishment size, but it could include publishing basic data, supported by a narrative, about the number and type of incidents reported and dealt with.

Care must be taken to not publish any details that could identify specific individuals. An establishment can include relevant objectives in its development plan and it should also refresh its equality objectives at least every four years.

4. Responsibilities

Governing Board

- Ensure that the establishment complies with equality-related legislation.
- Ensure that the policy and its procedures are implemented by the Headteacher.
- Ensure all other establishment policies promote equality.
- Give due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty when making decisions.

Headteacher

- Implement the policy and its related procedures.
- Make all staff aware of their responsibilities and provide training as appropriate to enable them to effectively deliver this policy.
- Take appropriate action in any case of actual or potential discrimination.
- Ensure that all staff understand their duties regarding recruitment and providing reasonable adjustments to staff. It is unlawful for an employer to enquire about the health of an applicant for a job until a job offer has been made unless the questions are specifically related to an intrinsic function of the work - for example ensuring that applicants for a PE teaching post have the physical capability to carry out the duties. Establishments should no longer require job applicants to complete a generic health questionnaire. Neither should an establishment seek out past sickness records until they have made a job offer.
- Ensure that all staff and children are aware of the process for reporting and following up on bullying and prejudice-related incidents.

5. Data (academic year 2023 - 2024)

	Suspensions	Exclusions	Reaching the expected standard at the end of Year 6			Bullying, prejudice and racism incidents reported
Children with protected characteristics	X	0	Reading	Writing	Maths	2 incidents
			62%	69%	62%	
Children without protected characteristics	X	0	Reading	Writing	Maths	
			78%	80%	76%	

X indicates the number is so low that children could be identifiable, therefore this will not be published.

Current Data (academic year 2024 - 2025)

	Suspensions	Exclusions	Reaching the expected standard at the end of Year 6			Bullying, prejudice and racism incidents reported
Children with protected characteristics	X	0	Reading	Writing	Maths	2 incidents
			64%	71%	64%	
Children without protected characteristics	X	0	Reading	Writing	Maths	
			81%	81%	89%	

X indicates the number is so low that children could be identifiable, therefore this will not be published.

6. Equality Objectives

Our establishment has two specific duties to assist us in meeting our general duty, set out by the Equality Act 2010 They are:

- To publish information to show how we are complying with the equality duty. This must be updated at least **annually**.
- To prepare and publish one or more specific and measurable equality objectives at least every **four years**.

Our equality objectives are in response to this general duty.

Equality Objective 1

- Monitor and track incidents of bullying, prejudice and racism, including reporting incidents to the local authority. Reviewing the common themes, using data to understand the link between incidents and irregular attendance, and adjust our curriculum and intervention in response.

Whilst incidents are reported and acted on in class, we now need to take the step of analysing them across the school. This may potentially lead to some changes in whole school practise with the aim that BRRIs are reduced.

Key strategies to address this

Action	Who?	When?	Resources and training needs/costs	How will this be monitored? What are the success criteria?
SLT to analyse data of bullying, prejudice and racism incidents	SLT	Termly	Time	Termly meetings held – report written on findings Aut 2025 1 – no incidents reported Aut 2025 2 – 2 incidents reported
Analysis of data shared with key staff to ensure that practise is adjusted in light of this	SLT/Teachers	Termly	Time	Incidents reduce in light of practise being adjusted. Spring 2026 – staff meeting discussion about incidents and how to support in class through PSE, Circle Time

Equality Objective 2

- Arrange an Equality committee, involving children, staff, parents/guardians and our community to contribute to policy making and reviews.

Having previously used on-line questionnaires with staff and parents around their thoughts on Equality, we believe that establishing an Equality Committee would be a fantastic initiative to promote and embed inclusivity throughout the school. By hearing a mix of perspectives, we will aim to address issues raised so that:

- Equality & Inclusivity is promoted
- Any discrimination & Bias is challenged

Key strategies to address this				
Action	Who?	When?	Resources and training needs/costs	How will this be monitored? What are the success criteria?
Recruit members to the Equality Committee	DS	Spring 2025	SENDCo Time	Mrs Smith will have a Committee that includes parents, staff, governors, Year 6 pupils and stakeholders in the wider community
Set up termly meetings	DS	Summer 2025	SENDCo Time	Meeting dates set for the following year Agenda set for meetings and minutes distributed to Committee members Agree priorities to address in the school
Promote 'anti' as opposed to 'non' in order to challenge bias or discrimination	DS	Aut 25 Spring 26	SENDCo & RSE Lead Time	Priority from Committee: Set up School Hero Award PSE Focus N-Y2 Acts of Kindness Box Y2-Y6

7. Appendix – Definitions

BPRI	Bullying, prejudice and racism incident
Cohesion	People from different backgrounds getting on well together (good community relations). There is a shared vision and sense of purpose or belonging. Diversity is valued. Relationships are strong, supportive and sustainable. Cohesion is an outcome of equality and inclusion.
Community	From the establishment’s perspective, the term “community” has a number of meanings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The establishment community – the students we serve, their families and the establishment’s staff. • The community within which the establishment is located – in its geographical community, and the people who live and/or work in that area. • The community of Britain – all establishments by definition are part of it. • The global community – formed by European and international links.
Cultural exchange	The sharing of different ideas, traditions, and knowledge with someone who may be coming from a completely different background than your own.
DfE	Department for education
Direct discrimination	Treating someone with a protected characteristic less favourably than others.
Discrimination by association	When a person is treated less favourably because they are linked or associated with a protected characteristic.
Discrimination by perception	When someone is discriminated against because it is believed they have a protected characteristic, whether or not they actually do.
Diversity	Recognising that we are all different. Diversity is an outcome of equality and inclusion
EAL	English as an additional language - a pupil whose home language is not English or who lives in a bilingual family.
Equality	This is more clearly defined as equality of opportunity and outcome, rather than equality of treatment. This means treating people fairly and according to their needs as some people may need to be treated differently in order to achieve an equal outcome.
Gender Dysphoria	Gender dysphoria is a recognised condition in which a person feels that there is a mismatch between their biological sex and their gender identity. Biological sex is assigned at birth, depending on the appearance of the infant. Gender identity is the gender that a person “identifies” with, or feels themselves to be.
Growth mindset	That there is always scope for learning, improving, and understanding.
Harassment	Unwanted behaviour linked to a protected characteristic that violates someone’s dignity or creates an offensive environment for them.
Inclusive	Making sure everyone can participate, whatever their background or circumstances. Ensuring everyone can experience the same experiences as any other child.