



RACE EQUALITY

Responsibility:
Review:

L Pownall
September 2019

1. School's Character and Circumstances

Llantwit Major School is an 11 - 18 mixed comprehensive school (established as such in 1973), situated in the centre of the town of Llantwit Major. Most pupils come from 5 main contributory primary schools in Llantwit and surrounding villages. Additionally, a good number of pupils from Barry and Rhoose attend, as a result of parental preference. The school's catchment can be described as 50 percent relatively prosperous and 50 percent average, with the intake being neither advantaged nor disadvantaged. No pupils speak Welsh as a first language or to an equivalent standard. Very few pupils (around 1 percent) come from minority ethnic heritages. 13 percent of the pupils are registered as being entitled to free school meals.

The school's intake represents the full range of ability, with almost equal groups of able and less able. There are an average of 19% (170 pupils) per annum on the school's ALN register who are registered as needing School Action (SA) or School Action Plus (SA+) of the Code of Practice for ALN. Very few pupils are disapplied from aspects of the National Curriculum.

2. School's Race Equality Policy

This race equality policy enables our school to meet our statutory obligations under the Race Relations Amendment Act (2000). Through this policy the school is working in line with the Commission for Racial Equality Standards Learning for All (2000).

This policy sets out our commitment to tackling racial discrimination and promoting equality of opportunity and good race relations, and explains what this means for the whole school community.

Aims

At Llantwit Major School we will continuously strive to ensure that everyone in our school is treated with respect and dignity. Each person in our school will be given fair and equal opportunities to develop their full potential with positive regard to gender, ethnicity, cultural and religious background, sexuality or disability.

We will actively promote race equality and oppose racism in all its forms and foster positive attitudes and commitment to an education for equality.

We aim to achieve this by:

- Taking active measures to investigate, report and act on incidents of racial abuse
- Treating all those within the whole school community (e.g. pupils, staff, governors, parents and community) as individuals with their own particular abilities, beliefs, challenges, attitudes, background and experiences
- Creating a school ethos which promotes race equality, develops understanding and challenges myths, stereotypes, misconceptions and prejudices.
- Encouraging everyone within our school community to gain a positive self-image and high self-esteem.
- Having high expectations of everyone involved with the whole school
- Identifying and removing all practices, procedures and customs which are discriminatory and replacing them with practices which are fair to all.
- Promoting mutual respect and valuing each other's similarities and differences and facing equality issues openly.
- Monitoring, evaluating and reviewing all of the above to secure continuous improvement in all that we do

3. Roles and responsibilities

This race equality policy outlines the roles and responsibilities of everyone involved and connected with the school, so that each individual knows what is expected of them. Promoting race equality and raising the achievement of minority ethnic pupils is the responsibility of the whole school staff, including support staff.

Introduction to this race equality policy will be included in induction arrangements for all new staff to the school. School induction procedures will highlight the duties implied by this policy in the same way as child protection, health and safety and behaviour policies form part of the induction process.

3.1 Governors

The governing body of the school has agreed this policy and will:

- assess and monitor the impact of this policy annually.
- receive progress reports from the head teacher and other school staff, as part of- the head teacher's report to governors.
- Return statistical information to the relevant council officer.

3.2 Head teacher

The head teacher will demonstrate through their personal leadership the importance of this policy. He/she will:

- ensure that all staff are aware of the policy and understand their role and responsibility in relation to this policy;
- develop an action plan to assess and monitor the impact of the policy and report outcomes to the governing body on a termly basis; and
- ensure that, where additional funding is available for raising the achievement of minority ethnic pupils, the additional resources are used appropriately and targeted on the basis of identified need for this purpose.

3.3 Subject Co-ordinator/Leader

Subject co-ordinators will be responsible for reviewing and monitoring curriculum policies and planning in their own subject areas to ensure that race equality is promoted.

3.4 Teachers

Teachers will familiarise themselves with this policy and know what their responsibilities are to ensure that the action plan is implemented. They will know the implications of the policy for their planning, teaching and learning strategies as well as for behavioural issues.

3.5 Administrative, ancillary, supervisory and support staff

All staff will familiarise themselves with this policy and know what their responsibilities are in ensuring that it is implemented.

3.6 Pupils

Pupils will be involved in the development of the race equality policy via PHSE and be made aware of how it applies to them. They will learn to treat each other with respect and report incidents of a racist nature to an adult.

4. Complaints procedure

If anyone in the school feels that this policy is not being followed then they should raise the matter with the relevant member of staff who will facilitate the appropriate action, which may include an investigation and report on the issue. If there is a formal complaint then the school's complaints procedure will be used.

5 Responding to Racist Incidents

How an incident is dealt with will depend on the seriousness of the situation, the age and understanding of the children involved, and the context. All incidents need to be acknowledged, investigated and talked through, whatever the age of the children

Very young children may not understand the terms they use but may recognise their power to provoke or upset. It is important to explain to young children why the language is hurtful and why it should not be used. Parents of young children should be dealt with sensitively and encouraged to assist with the procedure.

When a racist incident is reported or discovered school should follow their internal procedures. Schools should have a procedure in place for recording and logging racist incidents. Staff should not downplay the feelings of victims by stating that the perpetrator 'did not mean it', the perpetrator must take responsibility for the outcomes of their behaviour.

5.1 What to do

The process of reporting, acknowledging and dealing with a racist incident should incorporate the following steps:

- Alleged racist incident
- 1. Initial Response
- 2. Investigate
- 3. Take Action
- 4. Record and report
- 5. Follow up action

5.2 Initial Response

Responding to racist incidents is the responsibility of all members of staff. Detailed below is a list of possible responses to an incident.

- Acknowledgement of the incident.
- Treat Incident seriously.
- Respond immediately or as soon as is practicable.
- Reinforce the schools policy on racism.
- Support for the victim and express understanding and concern for what happened to them.
- Explain both to the child/children responsible and to any onlookers what is unacceptable about the incident.

5.3 Investigate

A senior manager or the nominated member of staff might be involved at this stage. School procedures should be set out in the policy for racial harassment or bullying policy and might include some or all of the following actions depending upon school policy.

- Discuss the incident with all parties.
- Refer children to the Heads of School or Head Teacher as appropriate.
- Address any underlying issues e.g. problems between the children involved that may not be related to race.
- The racial issues are acknowledged and discussed. Do not treat incidents as bullying alone; be able to explain why it is also a racist incident.
- The School's position on racism is reinforced.

5.4 Take action

With the Victim(s)

Provide immediate help and support for the victim to help minimise shock and long term effects. Listed below is a list of suggested actions that the member of staff dealing with the incident may undertake.

- Apologise for the incident.

- Explain the action taken against the offenders. The victim needs to know that the incident is being dealt with, and may otherwise believe that the perpetrators have not been challenged. This is especially important where actions are potentially 'invisible' to the victim, such as providing counselling, issuing a warning or speaking to parents.
- If appropriate, bring the two parties together to try to resolve the incident and mend relationships.
- Reiterate the firm policy of the school towards such behaviour.
- Encourage the victim to express his or her own concerns and feelings.

The victim may require counselling and access to this should be provided either through the school or via an outside agency.

Let the parents/carers know. Explain the action taken and discuss the matter with them. They need to be reassured that appropriate action is being taken.

With the perpetrator(s)

Contact the parents of those involved to explain what happened, what you are doing about it and how it relates to your school policy.

- Consider what the most appropriate action is. In the case of first offences or of very young children, encouraging the perpetrator to acknowledge and apologise for what has happened is often the most effective way to mend relationships and prevent reoccurrence. Repeat offences or more serious actions will require further sanctions in line with the School's bullying policy.
- Correct any racist misconceptions or beliefs that may be revealed.

5.5 Record and Report

- All reported incidents should be recorded using the example recording format (Appendix 1) or the school may adapt its own incident forms.
- A note of what happened, the outcome of the investigation and what actions were taken should all be kept on record. This record enables the school to monitor incidents and is vital should an incident need following up at a later date.
- Contact the LA immediately if further advice or support is required.

It is recommended as good practice that a report be made on an annual basis to the Governing Body.

The report should contain information on any racist incidents that may have occurred during the previous academic year. Such a report would include details of any action(s) taken and would demonstrate the School's commitment to the creation of a non-racist learning environment. Naturally names of children or any identifying information would not be included in the report.

6. Key areas in promoting race equality

6.1. The ethos of the school

- This race equality policy reflects the ethos of the school and is explicit in all the school's policies.
- The school has an additional policy for dealing with racial harassment which clearly sets out the procedures for handling and reporting complaints and incidents.
- Steps are taken to ensure that everyone associated with the school is kept informed about this racial equality policy and racial harassment policies and procedures, and abides by them.
- The policies and procedures are regularly reviewed and their effectiveness evaluated, taking into account the views of all sections of the school community. Reflection of all ethnic groups should be included in all marketing strategies.

6.2 Pupils' achievements and progress

- Pupils' attainment and progress in individual subjects is monitored by ethnic group (and by gender, language and disability).
- The school develops strategies for tackling differences in the attainment and progress of particular ethnic groups.
- When setting targets for individual pupils, teachers will be aware of the ethnic background of each child and will also be aware of current concerns regarding the under achievement of certain groups e.g. African Caribbean, Bangladeshi and Pakistani boys, white working class boys and, in particular, Gypsy and Traveller Pupils.
- The school values the achievements and progress of pupils from all ethnic groups. All pupils have equal access to extra-curricular activities.
- Every pupil is offered the support and guidance they need.
- Staff challenge racism, stereotyping and promote racial equality in education, employment, training and career choice. Steps are taken to ensure that pupils on work experience are not subjected to racism or racial harassment.

6.3 Curriculum, teaching and learning (including language and cultural needs)

- This school promotes an inclusive curriculum which reflects the multi-ethnic nature of our society.
- Racial equality and ethnic diversity are promoted and racism and discrimination are challenged in all areas of the curriculum. Curriculum planning takes account of the ethnicity, background and language needs of all pupils.
- Subject leaders and departmental heads provide guidance and examples of good practice for colleagues.
- The school monitors and evaluates its effectiveness in providing an appropriate curriculum for all pupils.
- The allocation of pupils to teaching groups and optional subjects is fair and equitable to pupils from all ethnic groups.
- Assessment outcomes are used to: identify the specific needs of minority ethnic pupils, inform policies, planning and the allocation of resources.
- Teaching methods and styles take account of the needs of pupils from different ethnic groups and encourage positive attitudes to ethnic difference, cultural diversity and racial equality.
- The school takes active steps to ensure that resources in all areas of the curriculum are inclusive. It promotes a greater understanding of cultural diversity and racial equality. There is acknowledgement of the importance of challenging racism and racial discrimination in all areas of the curriculum.
- Resources available to meet the specific needs of pupils from minority ethnic groups, including dual language resources, are used appropriately.
- The school makes full use of the resources available within its local minority ethnic communities.

6.4 Guidelines for working with pupils who have English as an additional language

- The school recognises and values multi-lingualism.
- The language and learning needs of multi-lingual pupils are clearly identified and appropriate support identified and used. The school will reflect and develop pupils' and communities' languages and cultural backgrounds through appropriate resources throughout the school.
- The school will explore a broad range of other media, for example computer software, the Internet, audio and videotapes, films, songs, games etc, to support the maintenance and development of home/community language skills and cultural heritage.
- The school will seek to provide community languages and dual language texts, both fiction and non-fiction, in order to facilitate access for pupils and communities who are developing literacy in their first language.

- The school will draw on the skills of parents and local communities in producing resources.
- The school will seek to provide high quality interpretation and translation across all areas of the school's work as appropriate.

6.5 Pupil behaviour, discipline and exclusion

- The school's procedures for managing, rewarding and disciplining pupils are fair and applied equally to all pupils, irrespective of ethnicity.
- The school identifies and adopts good practice strategies in order to reduce any differences in rates of exclusion between ethnic groups
- The process of excluding a pupil is fair and equitable to all pupils.
- Strategies to reintegrate long-term truants and excluded pupils address the needs of pupil

6.6 Admissions and transfer procedures

- VoGCouncil will take active steps to ensure that the admission process is fair and equitable to pupils from all ethnic groups.
- Steps are taken to ensure that all selection methods are fair and equitable to pupils from all ethnic groups.
- The school monitors pupil attendance by ethnic group and uses the data to develop strategies to address poor attendance. Provision is made for pupils to take time off for religious observance, leave of absence and authorised absence.

6.7 Staff recruitment and career development

- Recruitment and selection procedures are consistent with the statutory Race Relations Code of Practice in Employment and other equality legislation.
- Everyone involved in recruitment and selection adheres to this Code.
- Steps are taken to encourage people from under represented minority ethnic groups to apply for positions at all levels in the school.
- The recruitment and selection process is monitored and reviewed to ensure that discrimination is not taking place and to identify examples of good practice.
- The school monitors the employment and professional development of staff by ethnic group.
- Staff and governors go through regular and systematic training programmes on race equality issues.
- Proactive steps are taken to identify, support and provide opportunities for the professional development of staff from all ethnic groups.
- Individual staff effectiveness in dealing with race equality issues is addressed through various line management mechanisms.

- The school takes active steps to ensure that selection for redundancy avoids racial discrimination.

6.8 Parents, governors and community partnership

- Parents are welcome and respected in school.
- People from minority ethnic communities are encouraged to become school governors.
- Governors are encouraged to play an active role in the life of the school in order to fulfil their monitoring duties.

6.9 Racism and racial harassment

- There is a clear policy and established procedures for dealing with incidents of racism and racial harassment which is understood by everyone in the school community.

The monitoring system used by the school enables the school to report the relevant details to the governing body and to VoG Council.

- The school seeks to support all governors in performing their role, for example, through school induction procedures for new governors
- All parents are regularly informed of their child's progress.
- Proactive steps are taken to involve minority ethnic parents in the school.
- The school's premises and facilities are equally available for use by all ethnic groups.
- The school encourages community groups to use its facilities for after school activities and for holiday schemes.

7. Monitoring the race equality action plan

- The school monitors the impact of this policy and action plan on pupils, parents and staff from different ethnic groups. In particular, the impact of policies on the attainment levels of pupils.
- To monitor our pupils' attainment, we collect information about pupil performance and progress, by ethnic group, analyse it and use it to examine trends. To help interpret this information, we also monitor other areas, such as:
 - exclusion;
 - racism, racial harassment and bullying;
 - curriculum, teaching and learning (including language and cultural needs);

- punishment and reward;
- membership of the governing body;
- parental involvement;
- working with the community; and
- support, advice and guidance.

Monitoring information will help us to see what progress we are making towards meeting our race equality targets and aims.

In particular it will help us to:

- highlight any differences between pupils from different ethnic groups;
- ask why these differences exist and test the explanations given;
- review the effectiveness of current targets and objectives;
- decide what further action will be necessary to meet particular needs and to improve the performance of pupils from different ethnic groups (which might include positive action);
- re-think and set targets in relevant strategic plans;
- make links with performance management objectives which will include information about quality as well as quantity; and
- take action to make improvements.

8. Assessing the impact of policies

As a school we assess the impact of this and other policies on pupils, staff and parents from different ethnic groups. We assess whether the policies have, or could have, an adverse impact on the attainment levels of pupils from different racial groups. We assess the effectiveness of our policies through existing arrangements for developing and reviewing other school policies.

The questions which follow below are used by us to assess our policies in most areas, including:

- employment, promotion, training and career development;
- involving parents and guardians in the school;
- making sure that the curriculum prepares pupils for life in a multi-ethnic society; and • dealing with racist incidents.

The main questions for assessing the impact of all our school's policies - giving special attention to pupils attainment levels - include the following:

1. Do we help all our pupils to achieve as much as they can, and get the most from what is on offer, based on their individual needs?
2. Which groups of pupils are not achieving as much as they can? Why not?
3. Are we making sure that our policies are not having an adverse impact on pupils, parents or staff from some racial groups?

4. How do we explain any differences? Are the explanations justified? Can they be justified on non-racial grounds, such as English as an additional language issues?
5. Does each relevant policy include aims to deal with differences in pupils' attainments (or possible differences) between ethnic groups? Do our policies lead to action to deal with differences that have been identified (for example, extra coaching for pupils, or steps to prevent racist bullying)?
6. What are we doing to raise standards and promote equality of opportunity for pupils who seem to be underachieving and who may need extra support? What are we doing as a school to prepare pupils for living in a multi-ethnic society? How do we promote race equality and harmony and prevent or
7. deal with racism?
Can any action we take be traced back to individual policy aims and related targets and strategies?
8. Is the action taken appropriate and effective? Are there any unexpected results? If so, how are they being handled?
10. Does each relevant policy include aims to promote race equality and harmony, prevent or challenge racial discrimination, and deal with differences (or possible/perceived differences) between racial groups?
11. Do the policy's aims lead to effective action?
12. What changes does the school need to make to relevant policies, their aims and any related targets and strategies?

To answer these questions, we, as a school, will:

- collect and analyse relevant monitoring and other data;
- talk to pupils, parents and staff to find out their needs and opinions; and
- carry out surveys or special research.

We will use the results of these assessments to:

- re-think our race equality aims, targets and strategies (where necessary); and
- influence and guide our planning and decision-making.

We, as a school, will consider the views and needs of parents, staff and pupils from different racial groups. We will look at how we could communicate better (formally and informally) with pupils, parents and staff from groups and involve them in planning and decision-making.

Commission for Racial Equality

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