

Woodbridge School EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY

1 Policy Statement:

At Woodbridge School, we aim to offer all our children, regardless of racial, cultural or religious origin and irrespective of differences of class, gender or physical disabilities, the opportunity to develop to the full, their talents, abilities and interests.

We value the diversity that exists among people and the contribution that men and women from different backgrounds have made to the world we live in today. We are aware that our children are growing up in a multiracial, multicultural, tribal society and that if they are to become educated and effective citizens of our society, they need to be aware of the variety of cultural and religious traditions within it.

Many stereotypes about the roles of men and women from different ethnic backgrounds exist in our society. We believe that such stereotypes limit the potential of human beings and we will encourage our children to understand and see beyond them.

Our school is committed to the values of fairness, justice and equality. We will educate our school children of all ages, from the Early Years Foundation Stage to Sixth Form, to treat other people with courtesy, consideration and respect for their point of view. Racism and sexism have no place in our school. Every effort is made to discourage them.

2 Procedures:

Materials and Resources

In selecting and using materials, consideration will be given to equality of opportunity. We will try to ensure that materials:

- do not contain gender or racial stereotypes and they reflect a range of families and lifestyles;
- represent a variety of cultures, and contain up to date information on other countries and that they feature men and women in a variety of roles;
- reflect a range of musical, literary and artistic influences from a variety of cultures;
- are available equally to boys and to girls

Curriculum

All subject areas and all activities, including the use of visiting speakers, seek out and take appropriate opportunities to explore aspects of equal opportunity as outlined in the policy statement, including as appropriate the analysis of inequality.

PSHE and Citizenship

All children will be encouraged through PSHE and Citizenship activities and learning to recognise their own worth and that of others, through tackling spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues that are part of growing up in today's society. This will include an understanding of duties and responsibilities.

Dealing with adverse comments

Comments made by members of the community which go counter to the principles of equal opportunities outlined above will be challenged through questioning. Disciplinary action will be taken in extreme cases or in situations where the behaviour is recognised as bullying.

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