

Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC Education and Inclusion Services Directorate



STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLANS Guidance and Model Policy for Schools September 2022

This document is available in Welsh Mae'r ddogfen yma ar gael yn y Gymraeg

Contents Page

Section	Content	Page
		Numbers
1.	Introduction	3
2	Requirements of the Equality Act (2010) and	3
	Public Sector Equality Duties	
3	Integrating Equality into other Statutory and	4
	Non Statutory Policies	
4	Aims of the Strategic Equality Plan	4
5	Roles and Responsibilities	4
6	Engagement	6
7	Data Analysis and Evaluation	6
8	Developing a Strategic Equality Plan	7
9	Gender Pay Objective	8
10	Staff Professional Learning	8
11	Equality Impact Assessments	8
12	Accessibility Plans	8
13	Evaluating the Effectiveness of the Strategic	9
	Equality Plan	
14	Publishing and Monitoring Results	9
15	Conclusion	9
16	Further Support and Guidance	10
Appendix 1	School Strategic Equality Plan Model Policy and Template	11

1. INTRODUCTION

The Council and all of its schools are required to meet its commitment to equality and account for how the legal obligations outlined within the Equality Act (2010) are met. The Equality Act (2010) provides protection from discrimination, harassment and victimisation of individuals who have one of the protected characteristics as set out in the 2010 Act.

Under the Equality Act 2010, it is against the law to discriminate against someone because of: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation. These are called **protected characteristics**.

2. REQUIREMENTS OF THE EQUALITY ACT (2010) AND PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTIES

The Equality Act 2010 brought together and replaced previous antidiscrimination laws into a single Act and introduced a new general duty on the Council when making decisions and delivering services to have due regard how to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited under the Act;
- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

To fulfil the three aims of the general duty outlined in the Act, schools have three sets of specific duties:

- to collect, analyse and publish information about their progress in achieving the three aims of the 2010 Act;
- to decide on certain specific and measurable objectives that they will pursue over the coming years to achieve the three aims and publish these objectives;

and when undertaking the first two sets of specific duties:

• to engage with people who have a legitimate interest – including all staff, all parents/carers and learners, and local groups, organisations and individuals as appropriate.

The Public Sector Equality Duty came in to force in April 2011 (s.149 of the Equality Act 2010) and requires schools to take action to improve outcomes for learners with different protected characteristics. It is a legal requirement, under the 2010 Act, which schools in Wales must follow.

The ultimate aim of the Act is to ensure that public bodies and schools consider how they can positively contribute to a fairer society through advancing equality and good relations in their day to day activities. In essence, it aims to remove or minimise any disadvantage experienced by individuals due to their protected characteristics and ensures that appropriate actions are taken to overcome any barriers, particularly if participation in aspects of public or school life is disproportionately low. It also aims to develop positive relations by tackling prejudice and discrimination, and by promoting understanding between individuals who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

Meeting the duty may involve treating some people more favourably than others, as long as that does not contravene other provisions within the Act.

3. INTEGRATING EQUALITY INTO OTHER STATUTORY AND NON-STATUTORY POLICIES

The commitment to equality should underpin all school policies, processes and procedures. There are a number of key statutory and non-statutory policies that strongly reflect the requirements of the Equality Act (2010) and where there should be significant alignment with the Strategic Equality Policy and Plan. These include the: Pupil Discipline/Anti-Bullying Policy; SEN/ALN Policy; Safeguarding Policy; Curriculum Policy; and the Complaints Policy to name just a few.

All governing bodies and school leaders must pay due regard to statutory guidance issued by Welsh Government to governing bodies in maintained schools on Rights, Respect, Equality. There is also a requirement for all schools to record, monitor and report on all bullying and racial incidents to the local authority

Further information can be found at <u>Rights, respect, equality: guidance for schools | GOV.WALES</u> <u>AntiBullyingPolicy.pdf (rctcbc.gov.uk)</u>

4. AIMS OF THE STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN

All schools are required to have a detailed Strategic Equality Plan to ensure that the legal requirements of the Equality Act (2010) and the Public Sector Equality Duties in Wales are met.

The purpose of the Strategic Equality Plan is to fulfil the duties to provide equality for individuals with protected characteristics and to ensure that fairness and equality is at the heart of everything we do at all levels within our schools and communities.

5. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES GOVERING BODIES

Under the Public Sector Equality Duty there are also specific duties on school governing bodies to enable better performance of the general duty.

School governing bodies **must**:

- publish the school's four year strategic plan and relevant Equality Objectives and review them within four years
- publish a statement which sets out the steps it has taken or intends to take in order to achieve each Equality Objective and compliance with the Public Sector Equality Duties and Equality Act (2010)
- make appropriate arrangements to monitor its progress and effectiveness
- (when planning Equality Objectives) give due regard to relevant information that it holds and seek the involvement of those persons that it considers represents the interests of persons who share one or more of the protected characteristics.

All schools must have a current Strategic Equality Plan in place and this is a statutory requirement.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAMS

Senior Leaders in schools must ensure that they actively promote equality and eliminate discrimination by:

- implementing the school's Strategic Equality Plan, supported by the governing body in doing so;
- ensuring that all staff are aware of their responsibilities under the Act and are fully informed of our school's Strategic Equality Plan and Equality Objectives;
- ensuring that all appointments' panels give due regard to the Strategic Equality Plan, so that no one is discriminated against when it comes to employment or training opportunities;
- promoting the principle of equal opportunity when developing the curriculum, and promoting respect for other people and equal opportunities to participate in all aspects of school life;
- treating all incidents of unfair treatment and any incidents of bullying or discrimination, including racist incidents, according to the local authority and school policies; and
- ensuring that all staff are aware of the Strategic Equality Plan.

TEACHING AND NON-TEACHING STAFF

All members of the school staff must contribute to ensuring that their school is a fair, just and cohesive community by:

- ensuring that all learners are treated fairly, equally and with respect, and will maintain awareness of the school's Strategic Equality Plan;
- striving to provide material that gives positive images based on the protected characteristics and challenges stereotypical images;
- challenging any incidents of prejudice, racism or homophobia, and record any serious incidents as prescribed in the local authority and school's policies (e.g., reporting of racial incidents); and

• supporting the work of support staff and encouraging them to intervene in a positive way against any discriminatory incidents.

6. ENGAGEMENT

The views of learners and other key stakeholders (e.g., parents, carers , staff, school governors and the wider community) should assist in shaping the Equality Objectives identified in the Strategic Equality Plan.

Successful engagement requires information gathering and interaction with a range of different groups, whilst also remaining sensitive to the needs of individuals with different protected characteristics. Meaningfully securing the voices of learners, and their families and carers, is critical to understanding the needs of our learners and families, particularly the most vulnerable.

An extensive range of different engagement activities should be undertaken to inform strategic plans. These could include:

- an analysis of the survey responses or focus groups feedback on equality issues from a range of stakeholders including learners, parents/carers, staff, governors and the wider community. Some consideration should also be given to analysing information according to protected characteristics to inform strategic planning;
- learner voice activities and school council feedback;
- an analysis of school complaints;
- feedback provided from parental consultation events and workshops;
- feedback from annual review processes; and
- outcomes from community cohesion events and activities.

When consulting, important consideration has been given to the most effective and reliable means of gathering information. Interpretation facilities might be required for those for whom English is an additional language or are newly arrived in this country. Modified materials should also been considered and used to ensure accessibility for those with disabilities or ALN.

Consideration should also be given to how a school will share this information with key stakeholders (e.g., through annual reports, school website, newsletters etc).

7. DATA ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION

The school's self-evaluation and school improvement planning processes should also inform the Strategic Equality Plan. A comparison of the school's data, with local or national data (where available) should also been taken into consideration if appropriate, including:

- pupil attainment and progress data relating to different vulnerable groups and protected characteristics;
- an analysis of curriculum access and choices according to vulnerable groups and protected characteristics;

- attendance, exclusion and bullying/harassment data analysed according to vulnerable groups and protected characteristics where appropriate;
- engagement levels in enrichment activities according to vulnerable groups or protected characteristics;
- data on the recruitment, development and retention of employees; and an
- evaluation of historical actions and outcomes in relation to equality.

In addition to this robust self-evaluation should also contribute to the development of the plan, and there should be alignment and synergy between the School Improvement Plan and the Strategic Equality Plan.

Consideration should also be given to how the school will share this information with key stakeholders (e.g., through annual reports, school website, newsletters etc)

8. DEVELOPING A STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN

These guidelines have been developed to assist schools in developing a Strategic Equality Plan and its Equality Objectives. A model policy for a School Strategic Equality Plan is provided in Appendix A. These have both been developed to reflect the requirements of the Equality Act and the associated Public Sector Duties, and the Equality and Human Rights Commission Guidance which highlights the key components of on what should be included within a Strategic Equality Plan.

The format is provided as a guide only, schools may use other formats if they so wish. Irrespective of the format adopted, all schools must develop and publish Equality Objectives and a four-year Strategic Equality Plan that remains current and is updated in a timely manner to ensure that there is no gap in planning or delivery for improvement. The Equality Objectives and the Plan should be aimed at delivering measurable equality outcomes which improves the lives of individuals and communities and should detail the steps that will be taken by the school to achieve them.

The Policy and Plan must also demonstrate that the school collects relevant information and evidence on which to base its decisions and details the processes that will be followed to monitor progress and assess the impact of the proposals. The Strategic Equality Plan needs to be relevant to a school's context and reflects the nature of any equality issues experienced in the school. Alignment between the Strategic Equality Plan and other key strategic plans and policies should be evident and should highlight local, regional and national agendas.

9. GENDER PAY OBJECTIVE

The legislation requires that a gender pay objective is developed where a gender pay difference is identified, this will require statistical analysis of pay data and comparisons between male/female staff.

Some schools will not be able to identify a pay difference as the staff group will be too small to make statistical analysis appropriate and ensure that staff are not identifiable, if this is the case then this needs to be stated and an explanation provided.

If you do not have a gender pay objective then you need to state the reasons why.

10. STAFF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

It is a statutory requirement to promote knowledge and understanding of the general duty amongst staff and to identify and address training needs in this area during the performance management process. This should be routinely undertaken on an annual basis and outcomes should contribute to professional learning plans in the school.

11. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Equality impact assessments should be routinely undertaken to review of current and proposed plans and policies in order to ensure that no person is disadvantaged by school activities through discrimination. Impact assessments should be undertaken on an on-going process to ensure that the school's plans and policies are developed in an increasingly inclusive and equitable way. Where impact assessments have been undertaken, they should influence changes to policy and the review of the Strategic Equality Plan itself

12. ACCESSIBILITY PLANS

It is important to note that the requirement to prepare an Accessibility Plan is separate to the Strategic Equality Plan and as such two plans are required. Further information on Accessibility Plans can be found at <u>Policies | Rhondda</u> Cynon Taf County Borough Council (rctcbc.gov.uk)

13. EVALUATING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN

The Strategic Equality Plan should be routinely evaluated to ensure that it is effective in delivering improvement, promoting equality and fairness and in tacking any forms of discrimination. Key stakeholders should be involved in evaluating the impact of the actions detailed against each Equality Objective within the Strategic Equality Plan. A school is not required to identify actions against every protected characteristic, but the rationale and the evidence base for selecting key Equality Objectives and for excluding any protected characteristics should be provided.

An annual report evaluating the effectiveness of the Strategic Equality Plan should be shared with the governing body and they should be actively involved in shaping any new plans. The chair of governors should provide an overview of the success of the plan in improving equality in the Annual Report to Parents/Carers.

14. PUBLISHING AND MONITORING RESULTS

Schools should annually provide a report detailing the Strategic Equality Plan and its evaluation of it to the governing body. Information should also be detailed in the Governors' Annual Report to Parents/Carers.

All data collected for the purpose of analysing trends by protected characteristic in performance, engagement and satisfaction with the support and provision offered by the school, should be processed in accordance with data protection requirements and legislation.

The Strategic Equality Plan must be monitored by the governing body and all new plans submitted to the local authority on request.

15. CONCLUSION

In summary, it is a statutory requirement for every school to have a Strategic Equality Plan which clearly sets out how they have met their legal responsibilities in developing the 4 year plan and details a school's specific Equality Objectives for the duration of the Plan. They should also include detail on how the Equality Objectives were identified, the approach taken in respect of engagement and self-evaluation, together with clear actions detailed in the plan on how the Equality Objectives will be met. Governing bodies must comply with the requirements of the Act and ensure that the Plan is closely reviewed, with annual updates on progress is provided to the governing body and to parents/carers in the Annual Report.

16. Further Guidance

Further details can be obtained from Inclusion Services (<u>Ceri.L.Jones@rctcbc.gov.uk</u>) or from the Equality and Diversity Team at <u>equality@rctcbc.gov.uk</u>.



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL EDUCATION AND INCLUSION SERVICES DIRECTORATE

INSERT SCHOOL NAME SCHOOL STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN 2022-2026

INSERT IMAGE

Date of approval by the governing body: INSERT Date of annual review: INSERT Date of full review: INSERT

INSERT SCHOOL NAME STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN 2022-2026

CONTENTS PAGE

Section	Content	INSERT Page Numbers
	Foreword	
1	Introduction	
2	Our Context	
3	Integrating Equality into other Statutory and Non-Statutory Polices	
4	Aims of the Strategic Equality Plan	
5	Equality Act 2010 Public Sector Equality Duties	
6	Roles and Responsibilities	
7	Engagement	
8	Data Analysis and Evaluation	
9	Equality Impact Assessments	
10	Staff Professional Learning	
11	Equality Objectives	
12	Gender Pay Objective	
13	Publishing and Monitoring Results	
14	Strategic Leadership	
Appendix 1	Strategic Equality Plan	

THE FOREWORD

At INSERT school name we fully recognise our duties and responsibilities to eliminate discrimination and promote equality for all learners, employees, members of the school community and service users regardless of protected characteristics.

We fully support the requirements of the Equality Act (2010) and the need for protection from discrimination, harassment and victimisation of individuals with protected characteristics as set out in the 2010 Act.

Our Strategic Equality Plan has been informed by the views of our learners, parents/carers, staff, governors and wider community so that we ensure that it robustly addresses priorities for improvement and that equity and equality underpins everything that we do as an education provider and an employer. This Plan sets out our Equality Objectives for a four-year period from 2022 – 2026 and the actions we will take to reduce identified inequalities, improve outcomes and to foster good relations within school and beyond the school gates. As a community school, ensuring that everyone associated with the school is treated with care, respect and dignity is at the core of everything we do.

The school and governing body, will collect, analyse and publish information about our progress in achieving our Equality Objectives as outlined in the Plan, and the three aims of the 2010 Equality Act. These will be shared and published so that there is transparency and accountability. We will also aim to engage with our school community and wider partners to ensure that our Plan and the actions we take make a difference to the lives of individuals with protected characteristics in our school and to members of our school community.

INSERT NAME HEADTEACHER

INSERT NAME CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

1. INTRODUCTION

In INSERT NAME OF THE SCHOOL, we recognise the importance of diversity and strive to promote an inclusive culture and ethos in which all learners, parents/carers, staff and members of the school and wider community are welcomed and supported to fulfil their potential, irrespective of their background or protected characteristics (e.g., age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation).

Our school mission is aligned with the principles of the Equality Act (2010) **INSERT SCHOOL MISSION INFORMATION** and ensures that diversity is celebrated in our community school.

Furthermore, our school values support the development of equality for all due to its strong focus on supporting the wellbeing and achievement of all learners and where all members of the school community are treated fairly and with respect and dignity. INSERT INFORMATION ON SCHOOL VALUES.

INSERT SCHOOL NAME ensures that difference is valued and there is a widely held belief that permeates across our policies, actions and behaviours that diversity enriches our lives and experiences. As a school community we are committed to identifying and overcoming any barriers to learning and engagement, and to ensuring that all members of our school community achieve their potential.

The Policy and Strategic Equality Plan highlights our Statement of Intent that as a school we do not tolerate any forms of unlawful and unfair discrimination or bullying and harassment in any form. We are committed to championing equality and to ensuring that necessary adjustments are made to ensure the active participation of all learners in the life of our school.

It is our firm belief that all learners should be able to learn and develop fully in a truly diverse and inclusive environment and should be supported to achieve their potential, in order to support our own mission and the local authority's mission of 'Achieving Equity and Excellent in Education and enhanced wellbeing for all.'

2. Our School Context

Our school is a INSERT-medium all-age (3-16) comprehensive school in an area of INSERT. There are INSERT learners on roll, including INSERT in the INSERT phase and INSERT in the INSERT phase. In total, around INSERT of learners are eligible for free school meals, which equates to INSERT of the school community. Approximately INSERT learners have an additional learning need, which is higher than the national average of INSERT. Around INSERT of pupils have statements of special educational needs compared with INSERT or Wales as a whole. The school has a diverse population, and approximately INSERT of pupils come from a minority ethnic background and speak English as an additional language. Over INSERT different languages

are spoken within the school community and **INSERT** speak Welsh as a first language.

As a school we are committed to partnership working with our families, external agencies and wider communities. We work collaboratively with all our partners to ensure that our learners have access to the right support at the right time.

3. INTEGRATING EQUALITY INTO STATUTORY AND NON-STATUTORY POLICIES

Our commitment to equality underpins all school policies, processes and procedures. There are a number of key statutory and non-statutory policies that strongly reflect the requirements of the Equality Act (2010) and where there is significant alignment with this Policy and Plan. These include the: Pupil Discipline/Anti-Bullying Policy; SEN/ALN Policy; Safeguarding Policy; Curriculum Policy; and the Complaints Policy.

4. AIMS OF THE STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN

All schools are required to have a detailed Strategic Equality Plan to ensure that the legal requirements of the Equality Act (2010) and the Public Sector Equality Duties in Wales are met.

The purpose of the Strategic Equality Plan is to fulfil the duties to provide equality for individuals with protected characteristics and to ensure that fairness and equality is at the heart of everything we do at all levels within our school and community.

5. EQUALITY ACT (2010) AND PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTIES IN WALES

The Equality Act (2010) outlines the requirement of all schools to meet three key aims which includes:

- eliminating discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited under the Act,
- advancing equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
- fostering good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

In order to fulfil these three key aims, we are required by law to produce a Strategic Equality Plan and Equality Objectives every four years. To ensure compliance with the requirements of the Act, our school will:

• collect, analyse and publish information about the progress we have made in achieving the three aims of the 2010 Equality Act,

- self-evaluate effectively and decide on specific and measurable Equality Objectives that we are published and actively pursued over four-year interval to secure positive outcomes; and
- engage with all key stakeholders, including learners, parents/carers, staff and the wider community to shape, inform and evaluate the effectiveness of our Strategic Equality Plan.

The Public Sector Equality Duty came into force in April 2011 (s.149 of the Equality Act 2010) and requires schools to take action to improve outcomes for learners with different protected characteristics. It is a legal requirement, under the 2010 Act, which schools in Wales must follow. The effective and consistent delivery of our Strategic Equality Plan will enable our school to positively contribute to a fairer society by promoting equity, equality and positive relationships between all members of the school community irrespective of their protected characteristics. Furthermore, we will also aim to remove or minimise any disadvantage experienced by individuals due to their protected characteristics and ensure that appropriate steps are taken to overcome any barriers, particularly if participation in aspects of school life is disproportionately low. We will also aim to develop positive relations by tackling prejudice and discrimination, and by promoting understanding between individuals who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

6. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The following members of school staff will be responsible for ensuring the effective implementation of the Strategic Equality Plan.

GOVERNING BODY

The governing body has set out its commitment to equality and diversity in our Education Strategic Plan and it will continue to do all it can to ensure that the school is fully inclusive of learners, and responsive to their needs based on the various protected characteristics.

The governing body:

- seeks to ensure that people are not discriminated against when applying for jobs at our school;
- takes all reasonable steps to ensure that the school environment gives access to people with disabilities, and also strive to make communications as inclusive as possible for parents, carers and learners; and
- ensures that no individual is discriminated against whilst in our school.

In order to meet its reporting responsibility, the governing body will report on the progress of the Strategic Equality Plan annually, as part of its Annual Report to Parents/Carers.

SENIOR LEADERHSIP TEAM

Senior Leaders in our school promote equality and eliminate discrimination by:

- implementing the school's Strategic Equality Plan, supported by the governing body in doing so;
- ensuring that all staff are aware of their responsibilities under the Act and are fully informed of our school's Strategic Equality Plan and Equality Objectives;
- ensuring that all appointment panels give due regard to the Strategic Equality Plan, so that no one is discriminated against when it comes to employment or training opportunities;
- promoting the principle of equal opportunity when developing the curriculum, and promoting respect for other people and equal opportunities to participate in all aspects of school life;
- treating all incidents of unfair treatment and any incidents of bullying or discrimination, including racist incidents, according to the local authority and school policies; and
- ensuring that all staff are aware of the Strategic Equality Plan.

TEACHING AND NON-TEACHING STAFF

The school regards equality as everyone's responsibility.

All members of staff contribute to ensuring that our school is a fair, just and cohesive community by:

- ensuring that all learners are treated fairly, equally and with respect, and will maintain awareness of the school's Strategic Equality Plan;
- striving to provide material that gives positive images based on the protected characteristics and challenges stereotypical images;
- challenging any incidents of prejudice, racism or homophobia, and record any serious incidents as prescribed in the local authority and school's policies, e.g., reporting of racial incidents; and
- supporting the work of support staff and encourage them to intervene in a positive way against any discriminatory incidents.

7. ENGAGEMENT

Engagement with stakeholders has been important in ensuring that we have a clear view of what actions are deemed important to tackle inequalities and discrimination in our school setting. Active engagement with stakeholders has also been an effective means of reviewing the impact of the current Strategic Equality Plan and for identifying any further areas for improvement.

Successful engagement requires information gathering and interaction with a range of different groups, whilst also remaining sensitive to the needs of individuals with different protected characteristics. Meaningfully securing the voices of learners, and their families and carers, is critical to understanding the needs of our learners and families, particularly the most vulnerable.

An extensive range of different engagement activities have been undertaken to inform strategic plans. These include:

- an analysis of the survey responses or focus groups feedback on equality issues from a range of stakeholders including learners, parents/carers, staff, governors and the wider community. Some consideration was given to the analysing information according to protected characteristics to inform strategic planning;
- · learner voice activities and school council feedback;
- an analysis of school complaints;
- feedback provided from parental consultation events and workshops;
- feedback from annual review processes; and
- outcomes from community cohesion events and activities.

When consulting, important consideration has been given to the most effective and reliable means of gathering information. Interpretation facilities have been put in place for those for whom English is an additional language or are newly arrived in this country. Modified materials have also been used to ensure accessibility for those with disabilities or ALN.

8. DATA ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION

The school's self-evaluation and school improvement planning processes have also informed the Strategic Equality Plan. A comparison of the school's data, with local or national data (where available) has also been taken into consideration and includes:

- pupil attainment and progress data relating to different vulnerable; groups and protected characteristics;
- an analysis of curriculum access and choices according to vulnerable groups and protected characteristics;
- attendance, exclusion and bullying/harassment data analysed according to vulnerable groups and protected characteristics where appropriate;
- engagement levels in enrichment activities according to vulnerable groups or protected characteristics;
- data on the recruitment, development and retention of employees; and an
- evaluation of historical actions and outcomes in relation to equality.

9. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

The school has well established equality impact assessment processes in place.

Impact assessments have included the review of all current and proposed plans and policies in order to help us act to promote equality and to ensure that no person is disadvantaged by school activities through discrimination. Impact assessments are an on-going process to ensure that the school's plans and policies are developed in an increasingly inclusive and equitable way.

As part of the school's compliance with the specific duties of the Act, we will continue to undertake impact assessment of all new policies and plans prior to them being implemented. Similarly, we will impact assess our existing policies and plans whenever they are reviewed. As such, impact assessments are incorporated into the school's planned review and revision of every policy. Where impact assessments have been done, they will influence changes to policy and the review of the Strategic Equality Plan itself

10. STAFF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

It is a statutory requirement to promote knowledge and understanding of the general duty amongst staff and to identify and address training needs in this area during the performance management process. This routinely undertaken on an annual basis and outcomes contribute to our professional learning plans in the school.

11. EQUALITY OBJECTIVES

Our Strategic Equality Plan and Equality Objectives are set in light of stakeholder engagement, data analysis and self-evaluation (e.g., issues arising as a result of our analysis of our attainment data of boys v. girls; eFSM v non-eFSM etc).

Please see Appendix 1 for the details of the Strategic Equality Plan for 20022-2026 and the Equality Objectives for our school as informed by engagement activities, self-evaluation and local/national priorities. The Strategic Education Plan does/does not cover all the relevant protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act (2010). Excluded protected characteristics includes INSERT due to INSERT.

The actions detailed in Strategic Equality Plan are aligned with our School Improvement/ or school development Plan and both plans are cross referenced so that they are inextricably linked.

The Strategic Equality Plan has clearly identified:

- Equality Objectives and specific actions;
- expected impact and indicators of achievement (success criteria);
- clear timescales;
- lead responsibilities for identified actions;
- resource implications; and
- specified dates for impact assessment and review.

The Strategic Equality Plan will be routinely reviewed and annual reports provided to the governing body for parents/carers.

12. GENDER PAY OBJECTIVE

The legislation requires that a gender pay objective is developed where a gender pay difference is identified, this will require statistical analysis of pay data and comparisons between male/female staff.

In our school, we have not been able to identify a pay difference as the staff group is too small to make statistical analysis appropriate.

13. PUBLISHING AND MONITORING RESULTS

The school annually provides a report detailing the Strategic Equality Plan and its evaluation of it to the governing body on an annual basis. Information is also detailed in the Governors' Annual Report to Parents/Carers. The Plan and its evaluation will be shared with parents/carers.

All data collected has been used for the purpose of analysing trends by protected characteristic in performance, engagement and satisfaction with the support and provision offered by the school, whilst also being mindful of data protection requirements and legislation.

Please see Appendix 1 for further information on our Strategic Education Plan. This plan will be monitored by the governing body and all new plans will be submitted to the local authority.

14. STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP

The lead for the Strategic Equality Plan in INSERT SCHOOL NAME is INSERT NAME.

Further information can also be provided by the headteacher if required.

Appendix 1:

INSERT SCHOOL NAME STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN FOR 2022-2026

Date of Issue:	
First review of the Strategic Equality Plan:	
Formal review of Strategic Equality Plan:	

Autumn 2022 Autumn 2023 Summer 2026

Equality Ob	pjective 1 (please link to protected characteristics)				
Engagemer	nt Findings (e.g., priorities identified from stakehold	der surveys, meeting	gs, workshops etc)	
Key Self-Ev	valuation Findings (e.g., priorities identified from qu	alitative and quanti	tative data)		
Further dat	a required in future				
Success cr	iteria				
Actions	Description	Resources	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date
1.1					
1.2					
1.3					
1.4					
1.5					

Engageme	ent Findings (e.g., priorities identifies from s	stakeholder surveys, meetings, w	orkshops etc)	
Key Self-E	valuation Findings (e.g., priorities identified	d from qualitative and quantitative	e data analysis)	
Further da	ta required in future			
Success c	riteria			
Actions	Description	Lea	d Officer Start Date	End Date
1.1				
1.2				
1.3				
1.4				

Equality	Objective 3 (please link to protected charac	teristics)		
Engagen	ent Findings (e.g., priorities identified from	stakeholder surveys, meetings, work	shops etc)	
Key Self-	Evaluation Findings (e.g., priorities identified	ed from qualitative and quantitative da	ta analysis)	
Further d	ata required in future			
Success	criteria			
Actions	Description	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date
1.1				
1.2				
1.3				
1.4				
1.5				

Equality Objective 3 (please link to protected characteristics)

Engagement Findings (e.g., priorities identified from stakeholder surveys, meetings, workshops etc)

Key Self-Evaluation Findings (e.g., priorities identified from qualitative and quantitative data analysis)

Further data required in future

Success Criteria

Actions	Description	Resources	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date
1.1					
1.2					
1.3					
1.4					
1.5					

Equality	Objective 4 (please link to protec	cted characteristics)			
Engagen	nent Findings (e.g., priorities ide	ntified from stakeholder surveys, n	neetings, worksho	ps etc)	
Key Self-	Evaluation Findings (e.g., priorit	ties identified from qualitative and	quantitative analys	sis of informa	tion)
Further c	lata required in future				
Success	Criteria				
Actions	Description	Resources	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date
1.1					
1.2					
1.3					
1.4					
1.5					

Equality	Objective 5 (please link to protected c	haracteristics)			
Engager	nent Findings (e.g., priorities identified	d from stakeholder surveys, m	eetings, worksho	ps etc)	
Key Self	-Evaluation Findings (e.g., priorities id	lentified from qualitative and q	uantitative data a	nalysis)	
Further of	data required in future				
Success	Criteria				
Actions	Description	Resources	Lead Officer	Start Date	End Date
1.1					
1.2					
1.3					
1.4					
1.5					