

RAMSEY MANOR LOWER SCHOOL **COMMUNITY COHESION POLICY**

Ramsey Manor Lower School is a Values Education School where our Values underpin everything we do.

We are committed to safeguarding children and providing a safe and healthy environment for all to learn and grow.

STATUS: STRONGLY RECOMMENDED

DATE ADOPTED: Nov 2009

Policy agreed by staff: RS date: May 2019

Policy agreed by Governors: JB date: May 2019

Date of next review: May 2024

LEGAL BASIS

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 inserted a new section 21(5) to the Education Act 2002 introducing a duty on the governing bodies of maintained schools to promote community cohesion.

At Ramsey Manor Lower School we believe in working in partnership with local schools and the Harlington Area School Partnership and wish to adopt the Combined Community Cohesion Policy developed.

DEFINITION

Community Cohesion is defined as working towards:

“a society in which there is a common sense of vision and sense of belonging by all communities;

a society in which the diversity of people’s backgrounds and circumstances is appreciated and valued;

a society in which similar life opportunities are available to all;

and a society in which strong and positive relationships exist and continue to be developed in the workplace, in schools and in the wider community.”

(DCSF)

The Commission on Integration and Cohesion reinforced and developed this definition further by emphasising in particular, the need for cohesive communities to have:

A common vision: “a clearly defined and widely shared sense of the contribution of different individuals and different communities to a future vision for a neighbourhood, city, region or country.”

A sense of belonging: a strong sense of as individual’s rights and responsibilities and a trust in institutions to act fairly in arbitrating between different interests.

Equality: tackling equality and demonstrating fair treatment at all times.

The Harlington Area Schools’ Partnership will work towards achieving these goals through its approaches to:

- Teaching, learning and curriculum
- Equality and excellence
- Engaging and extended services

TEACHING, LEARNING AND CURRICULUM

The Harlington Area Schools’ Partnership aims to offer a curriculum which works to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils and prepare them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life. As our pupils will live and work in a country which is diverse in terms of cultures, religions or beliefs, ethnicities and social backgrounds, we believe that it is important that pupils learn how to understand others, to value diversity whilst promoting shared values, to be aware of human rights and how to apply and defend them, and to develop skills of participation and responsible action.

In order to achieve this we will review our curriculum and our approaches to teaching and learning to ensure that they:

offer opportunities for the discussion of issues of identity and diversity

promote shared values

encourage pupils to engage with others in a way which will help them to understand how diverse communities can be united by common values and experiences.

EQUITY AND EXCELLENCE

The Harlington Area Schools’ Partnership is committed to removing barriers to access and participation to enable all pupils to succeed at the highest level. We will work to narrow any gap between the progress and attainment of children

from different backgrounds and their peers. All pupils will be expected and encouraged to achieve their potential.

In order to achieve this we will monitor and analyse the progress and attainment of pupils from different backgrounds. Any evidence of inequality will be investigated and appropriate actions put in place to deal with the situation. We will also monitor and address any incidents of prejudice, discrimination, bullying and harassment and ensure that appropriate action is taken to prevent further incidents. We will also try to assess whether rewards, discipline and exclusion are more likely to be applied to certain groups than others and take appropriate action to address any inequalities.

ENGAGEMENT AND EXTENDED SERVICES

The Harlington Area Schools' Partnership is committed to promoting positive links with parents, the local community and other schools, especially in partnership with the schools in the local area. We are also keen to build links with the broader community and schools in other areas, including internationally.

We will develop our extended schools provision in line with the needs of the local community and in a way which supports community cohesion. We aim to provide suitable opportunities for pupils, families and the wider community to take part in activities and receive services which build positive interaction and achievement for all groups.