

# *Alfred Street Junior School*

## **COMMUNITY COHESION POLICY**

### **Introduction**

From September 2007 all schools have a duty to promote community cohesion and are responsible for educating children and young people who will live and work in a country which is diverse in terms of cultures, religions or beliefs, ethnicities and social backgrounds.

Community cohesion means working towards a society in which there is a common vision and sense of belonging by all communities; a society in which the diversity of people's backgrounds 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 school and in the wider community.

**The term community has a number of dimensions:**

**The school community:** The children and young people it serves, their parents, carers and families, the school's staff and governing body, and community users of the school's facilities and services.

**The community within which the school is located:** The school in its geographical community and the people who live and work in that area. This applies not just to the immediate neighbourhood but also to the city or local authority area within which the school is located.

**The UK community:** All schools are by definition part of this community.

**The global community:** Formed by the EU and international links.

### **Aim**

The school will continue to build upon our good practice and look at the impact of our activities. Our school builds community cohesion by promoting equality of opportunity and inclusion for different groups of children within the school. There is a strong respect for diversity, and equalities are added by sharing values and encouraging pupils to engage actively with others to understand what they have in common in order to equip them to live and thrive alongside people from different backgrounds.

**We promote community cohesion through:**

### **Teaching and learning**

Our teaching and learning provision supports high standards of attainment, promotes common values and builds pupils' understanding of the diversity that surrounds them. Opportunities across the curriculum are promoted to share values, to help pupils to value differences and to challenge prejudice, discrimination and stereotyping.

The school has a programme of curriculum-based activities whereby pupils' understanding of community and diversity is enriched through fieldwork and visits from members of different communities. Support is given for pupils for whom English is an additional language to enable them to achieve at the highest possible level in English.

Learners are encouraged to value diversity and to develop a better understanding of society by challenging assumptions.

Through our teaching of the International Primary Curriculum, we seek to promote the UK community as well as the wider global community.

### **Engagement and Extended Services**

We will provide means for children, their friends and families to interact with people from different backgrounds and build positive relations.

We will continue to build links with different schools and communities, provide extended services and 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.

### **Monitoring and review**

The Headteacher will monitor community cohesion and report to the Governing Body's Curriculum committee.

Reviewed July 2014 John Kidney

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