

Kingsfleet Primary

Community Cohesion Policy

Introduction

By community cohesion we mean 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 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 school and the wider community.

Community cohesion lies at the heart of what makes a strong and safe community. It must be delivered locally through creating strong networks, based on principles of trust and respect for local diversity, and nurturing a sense of belonging and confidence in local people. Effectively delivering community cohesion also tackles the fractures in society which may lead to conflict and ensures that the gains that communities bring are a source of strength to local areas.

The school community is the children and young people it serves, their parents, carers and families, the staff, Governing Body and the community users of the school's facilities and services. It is also the community in which the school is located, the community of Britain and the global community.

The vision of Kingsfleet School recognises and celebrates the diversity within our catchment area and welcomes the contributions which different groups and individuals make to the community. A key commitment of Kingsfleet School is to build and promote community cohesion within the school and the wider community.

Aims and Objectives

- To equip pupils to live and thrive alongside people from many different backgrounds
- To support and facilitate integration and community harmony
- To teach pupils to understand others, to promote common values and to value diversity, to promote awareness of human rights and of the responsibility to uphold and defend them, and to develop the skills of participation and responsible action.
- To ensure equal opportunities for all to succeed at the highest level possible, removing barriers to access and participation in learning and wider activities and eliminating variations in outcomes for different groups.
- To provide a means for children , young people and their families to interact with people from different backgrounds and build positive relations, including links with different schools and communities locally, across the country and internationally.

Promoting Community Cohesion

Teaching, Learning and curriculum

- Lessons across the curriculum promote common values and help pupils to value differences and to challenge prejudice, discrimination and stereotyping.
- Visits and meetings with members of different communities enrich pupils' understanding of community and diversity.
- An effective voice and involvement of pupils in the governance and organisation of the school in a way that teaches them to participate in and make a difference in school, in their community and beyond.
- High standards of attainment promotes common values and build pupils' understanding of the diversity that surrounds them.
- Learners are encouraged to value diversity and to develop a better understanding of society by challenging assumptions.

Equality and excellence

- Continue to focus on securing high standards of attainment for all pupils from all ethnic backgrounds and of different socio-economic statuses, ensuring that pupils are treated with respect and supported to achieve their full potential.
- Tracking systems will be used effectively to evaluate progress of different groups and to tackle underperformance by any particular group.
- Incidents of prejudice, bullying or harassment will be dealt with effectively according to local procedures.

- School admission arrangements will emphasise the importance of community cohesion and social equality.
- High standards and expectations will be set for all pupils from all ethnic backgrounds and of different socio economic groups.

Engagement and ethos

School to School

- The school will seek to broaden the ways it works in partnership with other schools.

School to parents and the community

- Develop and maintain good partnership activities with the local and wider community
- Develop and strengthen local engagement through links with community groups and organisations, enabling them to play a role in the school and encouraging pupils to make a positive contribution in the local area.
- Ensure the pupil voice is heard and able to effect change.
- Maintain strong links and multi-agency working between the school and other local agencies.
- Engagement with parents through
- Provision of extended services

Monitoring and Review

The Governors will conduct an annual review in the Summer term of the school's existing practice in relation to community cohesion and determine what further action may be required.

The Headteacher will monitor the three areas and report to the Governors termly on the progress and impact of the policy. The information from the annual review will feed into the next School Development plan.

Approved by Governors: Jan 2010