



Multicultural Education Policy

What is Multicultural Education?

We do not see multicultural education as a 'subject' but as a dimension which permeates all aspects of school life. As such it is at the heart of curriculum planning, development and implementation.

Why have Multicultural Education?

Through the provision of multicultural education our school is able to promote its own aim of ensuring that all pupils contribute positively to a multi-cultural society. We also take into account national advice and guidelines.

School Policy

Green Park School aims to provide an education that is up-to-date and one that will equip our pupils with the knowledge and skills to function in society. Every conscious effort is made to increase the self-esteem and respect of ALL our children for one another. The ethos of our school has been carefully developed in an endeavour to promote an attitude that welcomes and celebrates the cultural, linguistic and ethnic diversity that exists in society today.

The school and all its staff have an important part to play in ensuring that all pupils are educated for life in a multi-cultural society. To achieve this, the Governing Body and the school recognise:

- That multi-cultural aspects are an integral part of the curriculum.
- That the development of self-awareness, identity and esteem of individual children needs to be promoted and planned for.
- That tolerance, respect and understanding of others/individual groups/communities have to be developed.
- That notions of personal responsibility and decision making need to be sponsored.
- That a broader, richer curriculum should include knowledge and experience of other cultures.
- That we must ensure that the dress code does not discriminate against pupils of different religions and race.
- That preparation for a wider society should help children to become anti-racist in attitudes and enable them to develop concepts of equality, freedom and justice.
- That the classroom ethos is welcoming of diversity and encourages children to discuss their experiences, concerns and opinions in an atmosphere of trust.

General aims for Multicultural Education

- To help all our children through direct experience to develop an understanding of the ethnic diversity that exists in society.

- To help our children develop an empathy for, and understanding of the traditions, religions and cultural conventions of other races, societies and ethnic groups throughout the world.
- To help our children appreciate and enjoy the similarities and differences amongst people which are evident in a multicultural, multi-racial and multi-faith society.
- To develop a curriculum which increases both the esteem and understanding of all children for one another, which dispels racial prejudices and discrimination, and promotes racial harmony between those of different races, cultures and creeds.
- To promote an understanding and appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences which shape pupils' own heritage.
- To develop positive attitudes towards different religious, ethnic and socio-economic groups in local, national and global communities.
- To prepare all pupils to live and work harmoniously within the local, national and global society.

Aims specific to Green Park School

- To make available appropriate material and resources in terms of books, music and artefacts so that the positive contributions of all ethnic groups, cultures and creeds are reflected.
- To ensure these resources are selected to avoid racial stereotypes and to promote cultural links and diversity.
- To take into account the 'general aims' when planning our curriculum.
- To plan practical and relevant experiences in the curriculum for children of all abilities and interests to participate and respond to.
- To continue to develop topics for study that provide relevant opportunities to gain a multicultural education through experiences that are an integral part of other work in school rather than an isolated study.
- To ensure that, although our assemblies are broadly and mainly Christian, multi-faith aspects are shared and valued.
- To ensure there is a focus on traditional stories and faith stories from other cultures.
- To ensure, by regular monitoring, that pupils from other cultural backgrounds are not under achieving.
- To ensure that staff are made aware of how we, as a school, can meet these stated aims.
- To ensure the school is sensitive to the needs of families who celebrate festivals at different times of the year.
- To positively identify cultures reflected by our children and gather information and support from parents to help and guide our planning.
- To recognise in our teaching, contributions to mankind by all cultures, not just European, e.g. Mary Seacole and Ghandi.
- To ensure global issues such as conservation, pollution, health and world interdependence should also be covered in the curriculum.
- In our Religious Education we ensure that all children gain access to knowledge and understanding about the different faiths and explore their similarities and differences. We endeavour to acknowledge festivals when appropriate. Religious Education aims to give access to children to develop appreciation, understanding, tolerance and respect towards other faiths.

National Policy

There is a statutory responsibility upon schools to provide a curriculum which:

- Promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school.
- Prepares such pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

The Future

Any racial incidents will be reported to the Headteacher where they will be logged. Members of staff will ensure that they have logged and reported any racial incidents.

See also our 'Racial Equality, Inclusion and Equal Opportunities Policy'

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