
Equal Opportunities Policy

RATIONALE

The Education Reform Act says that

“The curriculum should promote society and should prepare students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life”.

Equal Opportunities is an integral part of this experience and it is our duty to eliminate any barriers which prevent an equality of opportunity for any member of our school community.

Equal Opportunities must be a dimension which is fostered throughout all areas of school life - both in the taught elements of the curriculum, especially the P.S.H.E. programme and in the opportunities available to students.

AIM

We believe that Equal Opportunities is not just concerned with issues of gender but also those of race, religion and ability. Wherever possible we attempt to offer equality of opportunity to those with physical disabilities through continuous improvements to access arrangements.

FORMAL CURRICULUM

A. Assembly and lessons

1. Content should be free of stereotyping.
2. Positive role models should be encouraged.
3. They should raise an awareness of other cultures in our society.

B. P.S.H.E. Programme

1. The P.S.H.E. Programme should encourage a knowledge and practice of Equal Opportunities.
2. P.S.H.E. should encourage freedom of choice.
3. The Health Education element should encourage responsible attitudes in all students.
4. The language of the P.S.H.E. programme should be stereotype free.
5. High self esteem should be encouraged.
6. An attempt should be made to redress stereotyping in the family and society.

INFORMAL CURRICULUM

A. Administration

1. Registers and files should be in alphabetical order.
2. The language of staff must avoid discrimination.
3. Students should not be lined up in gender groups for assembly.
4. There should be a mixture of sexes in the tutor groups in a year group.

B. Pastoral Leaders.

1. To discourage the use of patronizing terms.
2. Pastoral Leaders to monitor the work of the tutors in this area.
3. Ralph Wright to monitor the P.S.H.E. programme and to be aware of the language in which the programme is written.
4. Pastoral Leaders to encourage a positive approach to all groups in the school.

Updated July 2009