

Community Cohesion



Roselands & Stafford
Federation

Index Ref	Version	Date Approved	Approved By	Next review Date
	1	January 2014	FGB	March 2017
	2	April 2017	FGB	April 2019

The curriculum for all maintained schools should promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society, and prepare pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life. (Education Act 2002, Section 78)

Schools have a duty to eliminate unlawful racial discrimination and to promote equality of opportunity and good relations between people of different groups. (Race Relations Amendment Act 2000)

1. Rationale

From September 2007 all schools are under a new duty to promote community cohesion. Every school, whatever its intake and wherever it is located, is 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. As all children and young people can benefit from meaningful interaction, schools need to consider how to give their pupils the opportunity to mix and learn with, from and about those from different backgrounds, for example through links with other schools and community organisations.

This policy describes how our schools will give our pupils this opportunity.

2. Aims

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 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.

Our school's role is crucial. By creating opportunities for pupils' achievement and enabling every child and young person to achieve their potential, our school makes a significant contribution to long term community cohesion.

Cohesion is about how to avoid the corrosive effects of intolerance and harassment; how to build a mutual civility among different groups, and to ensure respect for diversity with a commitment to common and shared bonds.

Race and faith are often seen as the most frequent friction points between communities. However, discrimination and prejudice can be experienced by other groups including the disabled, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities and different age and gender groups.

The Roselands and Stafford Federation will plan its curriculum to recognise, where possible, where other strands of the equalities agenda are interconnected with the aspiration to promote community cohesion. However, in the Roselands and Stafford Federation the main focus is across different cultures, ethnic, religious or non-religious and socio-economic groups.

3. The role of our school in promoting community cohesion

We believe the Roselands and Stafford Federation has a key part to play in promoting community cohesion.

- ***Within the schools***

- Having visitors from various agencies and community groups to work with the pupils
- Charity support (selected by pupils and staff)

Representatives from local Churches & groups regularly lead assemblies.

- ***With other schools***

Sporting fixtures

Sharing good practice (through CPD)

Collaborative working on projects

Working with parents and the local and wider community

- ***Teaching, learning and curriculum***

Our teaching and curriculum provision supports high standards of attainment, promotes common values and builds pupils' understanding of the diversity that surrounds them

Lessons across the curriculum promote common values and help pupils to value differences

Support for pupils for whom English is an additional language and other minority groups enables them to achieve at the highest possible level

Visitors support the topic based curriculum.

- ***Equity and excellence***

In the Roselands and Stafford Federation there is a focus on securing high standards of attainment for all pupils from all ethnic backgrounds and of different socio-economic status

LA and school admission arrangements promote community cohesion and social equity

- ***Engagement and extended services***

School to school

Partnership arrangements enable us to share good practice and offer pupils the opportunity to meet and learn from other young people from different backgrounds

School to parents and the community

Strong links are fostered and encouraged, enabling multi-agency working between the Roselands and Stafford Federation and other local agencies e.g. social care and health professionals.

We promote engagement with parents through curriculum events and evenings, parent and child courses (Children's Centre), family learning (PIC)etc.

We provide access to or signpost extended services

4. Further information/links

National

Guidance on the duty to promote community cohesion. DCSF 2007

Equality Act 2006

Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000

The Children Act 2004

Our Shared Future June 2007

Community Cohesion Education Standards for Schools 2004