

**LANGLEY MOOR NURSERY SCHOOL**  
**Equality of Opportunity Policy**  
**Valuing diversity and promoting equality**



**Policy statement**

This policy is written in line with the Equality Act of 2010.

We will ensure that our service is fully inclusive in meeting the needs of all children, particularly those that arise from their ethnic heritage, social and economic background, gender, ability or disability. Our setting is committed to anti-discriminatory practice to promote equality of opportunity and valuing diversity for all children and families. We aim to:

- provide a secure and accessible environment in which all our children can flourish and in which all contributions are considered and valued;
- include and value the contribution of all families to our understanding of equality and diversity;
- provide positive non-stereotyping information about gender roles, diverse ethnic and cultural groups and disabled people;
- improve our knowledge and understanding of issues of anti-discriminatory practice, promoting equality and valuing diversity; and
- make inclusion a thread that runs through all of the activities of the setting.

**Procedures**

*Admissions*

Our setting is open to all members of the community.

- We provide information in clear, concise language, whether in spoken or written form.
- We can provide information in other languages when needed.
- All schools in Durham follow the L.A. admissions policy providing equality of opportunity.
- We ensure that all parents are made aware of our equal opportunities policy.
- We do not discriminate against a child or their family, or prevent entry to our setting, on the basis of colour, ethnicity, religion or social background.
- We do not discriminate against a child with a disability or refuse a child entry to our setting for reason relating to disability.
- Displaying of openly discriminatory and possibly offensive materials, name calling, or threatening behaviour are unacceptable in our school. Any adult witnessing an incident must follow agreed procedures:-
- -stop the incident and comfort the victim.

-reprimand the aggressor and explain why it is unacceptable and try to achieve an apology to the victim.

-report the incident to the headteacher or assistant headteacher and the action taken.

-record the event in the incident book in the office.

All incidents are reported to the Governing Body on a termly basis.

### *Employment*

- Posts are advertised and all applicants are judged against explicit and fair criteria.
- Applicants are welcome from all backgrounds and posts are open to all.
- The applicant who best meets the criteria is offered the post, subject to references and DBS checks.
- All job descriptions include a commitment to promoting equality and recognising and respecting diversity as part of their specifications.

### *Training*

- All members of staff are entitled to appropriate training to enable them to develop anti-discriminatory and inclusive practices, which enable all children to flourish.
- The L A provides training for members of the Governing Body in relation to issues of equality and diversity.
- We ensure that staff are confident and fully trained in administering relevant medicines and performing invasive care procedures when these are required.
- We review our practices to ensure that we are fully implementing our policy for promoting equality, valuing diversity and inclusion.

### *Curriculum*

The curriculum offered in the setting encourages children to develop positive attitudes about themselves as well as to people who are different from themselves. It encourages children to empathise with others and to begin to develop the skills of critical thinking.

Our environment is as accessible as possible for all visitors and service users. If access to the settings is found to treat disabled children or adults less favourably then we make reasonable adjustments to accommodate the needs of disabled children and adults. We do this by:

- making children feel valued and good about themselves;
- ensuring that children have equality of access to learning;
- undertaking an access audit to establish if the setting is accessible to all children;
- making adjustments to the environment and resources to accommodate a wide range of learning, physical and sensory impairments;
- making appropriate provision within the curriculum to ensure each child receives the widest possible opportunity to develop their skills and abilities, e.g. recognising the different learning styles of girls and boys;
- positively reflecting the widest possible range of communities in the choice of resources;
- avoiding stereotypes or derogatory images in the selection of books or other visual materials;
- celebrating a wide range of festivals;

- creating an environment of mutual respect and tolerance;
- differentiating the curriculum to meet children's special educational needs;
- helping children to understand that discriminatory behaviour and remarks are hurtful and unacceptable;
- ensuring that the curriculum offered is inclusive of children with special educational needs and children with disabilities;
- ensuring that children learning English as an additional language have full access to the curriculum and are supported in their learning; and
- ensuring that children speaking languages other than English are supported in the maintenance and development of their home languages.

#### *Valuing diversity in families*

- We welcome the diversity of family lifestyles and work with all families.
- We encourage children to contribute stories of their everyday life to the setting.
- We encourage parents/carers to take part in the life of the setting and to contribute fully.
- For families who speak languages in addition to English, we will develop means to ensure their full inclusion.

#### *Food*

- We work in partnership with parents to ensure that the medical, cultural and dietary needs of children are met.
- We help children to learn about a range of food, and of cultural approaches to mealtimes and eating, and to respect the differences among them.

#### *Meetings*

- Meetings are arranged to ensure that all families who wish to may be involved in learning about nursery work and how we can all work together for the benefit of all concerned.
- Information about meetings is communicated in a variety of ways - written, verbal and in translation - to ensure that all parents have information about and access to the meetings.

#### *Monitoring and reviewing*

- To ensure our policies and procedures remain effective we will monitor and review them regularly to ensure our strategies meets the overall aims to promote equality, inclusion and valuing diversity.
- We provide a complaints procedure for parents if needed
- The member of the Governing Body responsible for Equality and Diversity is Mrs J Millard

#### **Legal framework**

- The Equality Act 2010

**This policy will be regularly reviewed and updated as part of the School's overall INSET plan.**