



# ASPIRATIONS

## EQUALITY INFORMATION AND OBJECTIVES

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## **Equality objectives statement**

Harriers Banbury Academy is committed to encouraging and achieving an environment which is underpinned by fairness to all individuals, where equality and diversity is recognised, encouraged and valued, and the concept of individual responsibility is accepted by all.

The Equality Act 2010 brings together all the legal requirements on equality that the private, public and voluntary sectors need to follow. It affects equality law at work and in delivery of all kinds of services and in the context of this policy in all aspects of the provision of an education.

The Equality Act 2010 replaced existing equality laws including:

- The Equal Pay Act 1970
- The Sex Discrimination Act 1975
- The Race Relations Act 1976
- The Disability Discrimination Act 1995

Whether at work as an employee or in using a service, the message (or purpose) of the Act is that everyone has the right to be treated fairly at work or when using services.

The Act protects people from discrimination on the basis of certain characteristics and they vary slightly according to whether the person is at work or using a service.

At Harriers Banbury Academy we welcome our duties under the Equality Act 2010. The school's general duties, with regards to equality are:

- Eliminating discrimination
- Fostering good relationships
- Advancing equality of opportunity

We will not discriminate against, harass or victimise any pupil, prospective pupil, or other member of the school community because of their:

- Gender
- Race
- Disability
- Religion or belief
- Sexual orientation
- Gender reassignment
- Pregnancy or maternity

Harriers Banbury Academy aims to promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development, with special emphasis on promoting equality, diversity and eradicating prejudicial incidents for pupils and staff. Our school is committed to not only eliminating discrimination, but also increasing understanding and appreciation for diversity.

### **Aims to Eradicate Discrimination**

Harriers Banbury Academy believes that a greater level of success from pupils and staff can be achieved by realising the uniqueness of individuals. Creating a prejudice-free environment where individuals feel confident and at ease is a commitment of the school. This environment will be achieved by:

- Being respectful.
- Always treating all members of the school community fairly.
- Developing an understanding of diversity and the benefits it can have.
- Adopting an inclusive attitude.
- Adopting an inclusive curriculum that is accessible to all.
- Encouraging compassion and open-mindedness.

We are committed to having a balanced and fair curriculum. We believe that our pupils should be exposed to ideas and concepts that may challenge their understanding to help ensure that pupils learn to become more accepting and inclusive of others. Challenging and controversial concepts will be delivered in a way that prevents discrimination, and instead promotes inclusive attitudes. We will also respect the right of parents to withdraw their children from classes which pose conflicts to their own beliefs.

### **Dealing with Prejudice**

Harriers Banbury Academy does not tolerate any form of prejudice-related incident. Whether direct or indirect, we treat discrimination against all members of our school with the utmost severity. When an incident is reported, through a thorough reporting procedure, our school is devoted to ensuring appropriate action is taken and a resolution is put into place which is both fair and firm.

At Harriers Banbury Academy, our pupils are taught to be:

- Understanding of others.
- Celebratory of cultural diversity.
- Eager to reach their full potential.
- Inclusive.
- Aware of what constitutes discriminatory behaviour.

The school's employees will not:

- Discriminate against any member of the school.
- Treat other members of the school unfairly.

The school's employee's will:

- Promote diversity and equality.
- Encourage and adopt an inclusive attitude.
- Lead by example.

### **Equality and Dignity in the Workplace**

Harriers Banbury Academy does not discriminate against staff with regards to their:

- Age.
- Disability.
- Gender reassignment.
- Marital or civil partner status.
- Pregnancy or maternity.
- Race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin.
- Religion or belief.
- Sex or sexual orientation.

Equality of opportunity and non-discrimination extends to the treatment of all members of the school community. All staff members are obliged to act in accordance with the school's various policies relating to equality.

We will guarantee that no redundancy is the result of direct or indirect prejudice. All disciplinary procedures are non-prejudicial, whether they result in warnings, dismissal, or any other disciplinary action.

### **Closing statement**

Prejudice is not tolerated at Harriers Banbury Academy and we are continuously working towards a more accepting and respectful environment for our schools community.

The school's Equality Policy and Public Sector Equality Duty further outline the school's policies regarding equality.