

MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION POLICY

This policy should be read and used in conjunction with our PSHE, Citizenship, Equal Opportunities and RE policies as they all have a positive place in developing children's understanding of the society that we live in and the cultural diversity that surrounds us. Through multicultural education we aim to help children appreciate and gain enjoyment and understanding of the diverse cultures in society and see them as enriching life. We feel that this is especially important in our school circumstances where pupils have little or no contact with people with different cultural roots.

Through our policy we aim to:

- Develop an understanding of the multicultural society in which we live and to value each person on their own merit
- Foster attitudes that are opposed to discrimination on grounds of race, religion or way of life.
- Promote tolerance towards people who hold different beliefs
- Be aware of prejudices and offer positive role models and attitudes towards different cultural groups
- Arrange for our children to meet with people from other cultures
- Counter stereotypes that are present in society

Activities that support our strategy.

There are many instances where we are able to reinforce our multicultural policy. Many times issues arise and are dealt with in class, especially in circle time. These discussions may be spontaneous, planned or reflect stories in the news or relate to current issues. Other areas can be planned for within other subject areas. For example:

- RE. The study of different religions, beliefs and ways of life. Visits to the Synagogue and Hindu Temple and visiting speakers. Visiting other schools to share celebrations and inviting them back to share ours.
- Geography. Through the study of different localities.
- History. Topics such as past civilisations.
- Music. Music from different cultures feature in the school's scheme of work for music.
- Library and Resource Room. We have purchased materials and artefacts which present positive images of different cultures. This is also reflected in the class materials.
- PSHE & Citizenship. There are many themes where this area overlaps with multicultural education and reinforces its aims.
- Multi Cultural Celebrations. These are a feature of the school's RE scheme of work and may be shared and enjoyed by pupils, staff and parents

As always, topics are addressed bearing in mind the age and development of the children taking part. Teachers should be sensitive to children's needs and background as many of their images and ideas will stem from their experiences at home. The school prospectus contains an overview of our approach and aims and the expectation that parents will support our work in this area.

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