

# Tor View School



## **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion local procedure May 2025**

<b>Local Procedure Title</b>	<b>Equality, Diversity and Inclusion</b>
<b>Site</b>	<b>Tor View School</b>
<b>Local Procedure date</b>	May 2025
<b>Local Procedure review date</b>	May 2026
<b>Local Procedure Author(s)</b>	(John Gordon)
<b>Local Procedure Ratification</b>	Checked and Approved by: Regional Director (Nancy O'Regan) Rebecca McArthur from 01/11/25

## 1. Our Vision and Aims for Equality and Diversity

Tor View School's core values are resilience, teamwork, respect, courage and pride. We will treat everyone fairly; celebrating and meeting different needs so that all members of our school community are free to live, learn and achieve their potential.

We aim to:

- Model and teach respect of everyone, accepting and celebrating difference.
- Maintain and promote a working partnership between the school, parents and community which fosters respect, honesty, truth, co-operation and tolerance.
- Help pupils understand the world in which they live, have mutual respect for the values of others and work together as a team.
- Provide opportunities for pupils to explore their own culture and identity and that of others.
- To ensure that everyone, whatever their needs and capabilities, is included and catered for.
- To value each individual and recognise and respond to the needs of all pupils.
- Give every pupil in our care the best opportunities to reach their full potential.

## 2. Defining Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

### 2.1 Equality

Equality is about fairness and equality of opportunity. Advancing equality of opportunity involves treating people differently. People should not be treated the same. Some people may need extra help or adjustments to be part of Tor View school community; this includes teachers, administration, cleaning or catering staff employed at Tor View as well as pupils, parents and other stakeholders. At Tor View every pupil has different strengths and needs. A meaningful curriculum have individualised components for each learning pathway to help pupils meet their needs and achieve.

Relating to the Equality Act (2010) there are nine 'protected characteristics' these are:

- age
- disability
- gender reassignment
- marriage / civil partnership
- pregnancy / maternity
- race
- religion and belief
- sex
- sexual orientation

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/equality-act/protected-characteristics>

Under the general duty TVS must exercise 'due regard' in respect of the protected characteristics to:-

1. Eliminate unlawful discrimination and harassment
2. Advance equality of opportunity
3. Foster good relations between different groups

## **2.2 Diversity**

Diversity is about valuing people as individuals and learning from our differences. Our differences can be visible and non-visible. Promoting diversity we can meet different needs creatively to ensure opportunities are available to all and potential is fulfilled. Promoting a diversity friendly school culture we are able to meet Tor View's aims and objectives more efficiently.

Culture is about the way we behave towards one another – the school leaders, all employees in the school, parents, pupils and the whole school community. It is about how we treat one another and respect our differences. Promoting diversity and a diversity friendly culture helps to create a more productive school community.

## **2.3 Inclusion**

Inclusion in education happens when cultures, policies and practices respond to diversity in ways that value everyone equally.

At Tor View it is shaped continuously, moment by moment, by the quality of every interaction and by every decision about teaching, learning or participation. Interactions and decisions, in turn, depend on the attitudes, beliefs and expectations of the school community, and on Tor View's culture.

Inclusion is about everyone: adults as well as children and young people, and not only those with labels of SEND.

## **3. Purpose and Scope of the Policy**

This policy sets out Tor View's commitment to promoting equality and diversity. We believe that it is our responsibility to promote equality and diversity wider than the nine characteristics (areas) covered by legislation. We work to remove barriers, and we will not unfairly discriminate on any grounds.

We do this by:

- Making appropriate changes to teaching resources.
- Accessing Local Authority Services e.g. Ethnic Minority and Travellers Advisory Service, external agencies that promote equality and diversity.
- Supporting children's emotional needs using the TIS approach and therapy such as SALT, OT, Animal assisted therapy, Soft Tissue therapy and play therapy.
- Providing a curriculum, which promotes positive understanding of different characteristics, recognises the contribution that individuals and groups with protected characteristics make to society, and challenges stereotyping and discrimination.
- Monitoring and reviewing of this policy will take place annually and will be made accessible to all.

The policy applies to:

- Staff
- Parents
- Pupils (as appropriate)
- Visitors
- Multi-agency Professionals
- Contractors
- Other stakeholders

#### 4. Roles and Responsibilities

All members of Tor View community, staff, pupils, parents and visitors all have a part to play in implementing this policy, promoting diversity and equality, challenging inappropriate behaviour or practice to remove barriers and avoiding discrimination.

To promote the understanding of this responsibility will:

- Ensure all Stakeholders are made fully aware of our Equality and Diversity Policy and how it affects their work.
- Ensure pupils and visitors to Tor View are clear about the expectations to our commitment to promoting equality and diversity.
- Provide training/development and updates as appropriate.
- Review our equality objectives and actions to ensure all relevant activity remains relevant and meets the identified needs and priorities of Tor View.
- Address, challenge and investigate any incidents of racism, homophobia or discrimination.

In addition, School Leaders have responsibility for overseeing, agreeing, monitoring and reviewing Tor View's equality objectives, and related activity.

#### 4.1 Breaches of Policy

Tor View School views any form of discrimination as a serious act of misconduct. Any allegation of a breach in the policy would be referred to HR. Investigations will be carried out by the Heads Teacher, DSL, members of SLT or an external party. This may lead to disciplinary or other appropriate action being taken depending on the individual situation.

#### 5. Monitoring and review

Tor View has specific duties under the Equality Act (2010) to publish information about the diversity of our school community and the work we are doing to promote equality. We will review this information annually.

#### 6. Bullying and Diversity incidents

##### 6.1 Pupils

Tor View believes all pupils should be safe and feel valued for themselves, whatever characteristics they may have. Bullying and harassment of pupils, staff, parents, visitors by pupils on the basis of their identity (including a perceived characteristic, and by association with a protected characteristic) is unacceptable. Incidents will be logged, investigated and appropriate actions taken to prevent future incidents and to support the victim as outlined in the School's anti-bullying Policy.

##### 6.2 Staff and Governors

Any form of discrimination undertaken by adults as serious acts of misconduct. Any such breaches could result in disciplinary action being taken and in the case of harassment, might call for police involvement.

#### 7. Diversity Complaints

All complaints are taken seriously; where a complaint is related to equality/diversity issues, the school procedure for dealing with complaints will apply. This procedure will be made accessible to all stakeholders upon request. Complaints should be made to the Headteacher (Nicola Cutler) or Regional Director (Rebecca McArthur)

**Local Procedure Review History:**

<b>Date Reviewed</b>	<b>Reviewer</b>	<b>Summary of revisions</b>
01/11/2024	John Gordon	Change of regional director, name change.
25/1/26	Claire Treliving	Change of HT name