

MEADFURLONG SCHOOL

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

January 2010

INTRODUCTION AND AIMS

- To ensure all pupils, regardless of gender, race, culture, background, language or ability are offered the full range of learning experiences presented in this school.
- To encourage each child to develop his/her full potential in all aspects of school life – spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical
- To prepare children to work, live and play together harmoniously.
- To encourage parental support, involvement and assistance within the school to help us reach these goals.

ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT

Staff will:

- Ensure that there is a balance of mixed, single sex and racial grouping as appropriate.
- Refer to children by sex-grouping only when appropriate e.g. girls line up first etc.
- Encourage co-operation rather than competition, between all children.
- Ensure that all sports and activities are open to all pupils.
- Not expect only girls to tidy up and look after smaller children and not expect only boys to lift and carry.
- Expect all pupils to behave in the same well behaved manner.
- Expect all pupils to perform equally well in language, maths and science.
- Use the same tone of voice with all pupils.
- Reward and/or punish all pupils to the same extent.

- Expect similar attitudes of imagination and concentration of both sexes.
- Expect all pupils to be neat and clean in personal hygiene.
- Give time equally to children of both sexes.
- Ask the same type of questions of boys and girls and to stretch both sexes so as to fulfil each one's potential.
- Not promote stereo-typed images in any way.
- Condemn inappropriate language on an equal basis.
- Challenge jokes and comments that make adverse references to gender, race or culture.
- Ensure that curriculum co-ordinators buy non-sexist materials
- Publically give credit to all boys and girls for their contributions regardless of race.
- Portray a positive role model on gender and race issues so that it carries over into their behaviour outside the classroom.
- Discuss gender issues as well as raising awareness when sex stereotyping issues naturally occur.
- Acknowledge that all pupils have a right to their own personal spaces and ensure that it is not invaded by others.

TEACHING AND LEARNING STRATEGIES

- Both boys and girls are required to learn, develop and become involved in skills and caring activities on an equal basis.
- New learning experiences, situations and equipment are introduced in a race and gender free fashion.
- All social and sporting activities are open to all pupils and equal encouragement and opportunity is given to all pupils to participate in all extra curricular activities regardless of race or gender.

CHILDREN WILL SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

- Each pupil will be taken as an individual and his/her ability in comparison to others will not be a debilitating factor in his/her access to resources or to his/her attaining his/her optimum educational attainment.

- Children having special educational needs and receiving additional support will also be involved in all aspects of class work and routine.
- It is accepted that pupils with special educational needs (physical or educational) are useful and valued members of a class or community.
- Extra help, resources and/or facilities will be used to help some pupils operate to their full potential.

Signed..... Date.....