



# Inclusion Policy

Chair's signature Mrs Elizabeth Surtees

Head's signature Mark Tipple-Johnson

Date 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Review date.....July 2025

At Merrydale Infant School we are committed to giving all our children every opportunity to achieve the highest of standards. This policy helps to ensure that this happens for all the children in our school – regardless of their age, gender, ethnicity, needs, attainment or background. We aim to be an inclusive school. This means that equality of opportunity must be a reality for our children. We make this a reality through the attention we pay to the different groups of children within our school:

- girls and boys;
- minority ethnic and faith groups;
- children with English as an additional language;
- children with special educational needs;
- gifted and talented children;
- any children who are at risk of disaffection or exclusion.

The National Curriculum is our starting point for planning a curriculum that meets the specific needs of individuals and groups of children. We do this through:

- setting suitable learning challenges;
- responding to children's diverse learning needs;
- overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils;

We achieve educational inclusion by continually reviewing what we do, through asking ourselves these key questions:

- do all our children achieve as much as they can?
- are there differences in the achievement of different groups of children?
- what are we doing for those children who we know are not achieving their best?
- are our actions effective?

Children's attainment is closely monitored to ensure that anyone not achieving in line with expectations are highlighted and appropriate action plans put in place that are actioned.

All teachers are familiar with the relevant equal opportunities legislation covering special needs, race, gender and disability.

All teachers ensure that children:

- feel secure and know that their contributions are valued;
- appreciate and value the differences they see in others;
- take responsibility for their own actions;
- participate safely in clothing that is appropriate to their religious beliefs;
- are taught in groupings that allow them all to experience success;
- use materials that reflect a range of social and cultural backgrounds, without stereotyping;
- have a common curriculum experience that allows for a range of different learning styles;
- have challenging targets that enable them to succeed;
- are encouraged to participate fully, regardless of disabilities or medical needs.

In our school the teaching and learning, achievements, attitudes and well-being of every child are important. We follow the necessary regulations to ensure that we take the experiences and needs of all our children into account when planning for learning.

Following the introduction of the Disability Discrimination Act 2001/ 2005, at Merrydale Infant school we;

- do not treat disabled pupils 'less favourably' in any area of school life
- promote equality of opportunity between disabled people and other people
- promote positive attitudes towards disabled people
- are aware of our obligations under this Act and always act in a way that is mindful to them
- have made reasonable adjustments to ensure we have done all we can to ensure disabled pupils are not at a substantial disadvantage
- drawn up plans, and begun to implement them, to show how, over time, they will increase access to education for disabled pupils (school accessibility plans)