



Newquay Tretherras' Single Equality Scheme

2011-2012

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Forward

The success of Newquay Tretherras' Single Equality Scheme will require ownership by Governors, Senior leaders, all staff, students, parents, school partners and the wider school community.

Newquay Tretherras' Single Equality Scheme (NTSES) serves essentially two purposes:

1. To set out a school's overall commitment to equality and diversity in one central document. The NTSES therefore contains:

- Newquay Tretherras' approach to all six Equality Strands: race, religion and belief, sexual orientation, disability, age and gender (including transgender), and
- How Newquay Tretherras will manage, plan and include its equality and diversity policy within its day to day work.

2. To act as the 'umbrella' document for both our statutory and non-statutory equality schemes. The NTSES therefore contains:

- Newquay Tretherras' statutory equality schemes in relation to race, disability and gender
- Newquay Tretherras' non-statutory schemes in relation to sexual orientation, religion/belief and age.

The NTSES will help us to ensure that we are more focussed on the outcomes that matter to the community and people who use our services; and that our services are more accessible and are delivered effectively.

The NTSES incorporates, for the first time, information, issues and potential areas for action in relation to sexual orientation, age and religion/belief. While there is no legal requirement to develop 'schemes' in these areas, broadening the approach to all six recognised equality strands illustrates our commitment to ensuring equality for all.

1. Introduction

In the implementation of this Scheme we have moved from a focus on an individual response to an approach that builds on race, disability and gender considerations from the start and at every level of Newquay Tretherras, at strategic, policy, management and classroom level. We need to be able to demonstrate what we have done and what we plan to do to improve opportunities and outcomes for students, staff, parents and other users of Newquay Tretherras. This scheme will be monitored and delivered through the Governors' role plus school improvement and self evaluation processes.

We will ensure that every student irrespective of race, disability, gender, religion and belief or sexual orientation is able to achieve high standards and that strategies are in place to tackle under-achievement. We will ensure that every pupil has access to the necessary support required to enable them to achieve their highest potential. We will ensure that our procedures for disciplining pupils and managing behaviour are fair, effective and equitable.

Our intention is to ensure that the adults working or volunteering at Newquay Tretherras include as much as possible a balanced gender mix, appropriate representation of diverse ethnic groups and disabled people. We believe that this will provide good role models for students from all backgrounds.

We will involve students, staff, parents, carers, governors and all other stakeholders in the development of our Single Equality Scheme. All stakeholders need to be involved from the very start and their involvement will inform the preparation, development, publication, review and reporting of the Scheme. The aim is to ensure that we meet the needs of people from different ethnic backgrounds, boys and girls, and children and adults with disabilities.

Our vision:

- For every student to feel valued for who they are, so they can grow and flourish into confident, successful adults
- For every student to have no barriers to opportunity, achievement, success or enjoyment
- For all our families to feel valued and their diversity recognised and celebrated
- That our wider community benefits from the work of the school, building on the values of community cohesion

Section 2 - School profile and values

Newquay Tretherras is a popular and oversubscribed Academy situated on the North Coast of Newquay. We were recently recognised as Outstanding by Ofsted with 16 areas of outstanding practice throughout the academy. It is the 'Tretherras Way' to ensure that all our young people achieve their best and participate fully in the life of the school. We accept students from the surrounding areas and from a number of local primary schools and academies, which form our Family of schools.

The profile of our current students, staffing and Governors (November 2011) is represented in the table below:

	Total	Male	Female	Minority Ethnic	Disability
Students	1613 (census 2011)	871	742	25 (461-Cornish)	39 (using internal SEN data)
Teaching staff	117	48	69	0	2
Support staff	82	21	61	0	0
Governors	13	10	5	0	0

Newquay Tretherras is committed to:

- Tackling discrimination of all kinds: including race, disability, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religious belief and age discrimination.
- Positively promoting race, disability and gender equality.
- Creating good relationships with all groups it serves: by race, culture, gender, disability, sexual orientation, religious belief and age.
- Promoting equality of opportunity for all.

Roles and responsibilities, commitment and accountability

The NTSES will mainstream equality issues by:

- Integrating equality issues into all our key policies, service planning arrangements and performance management framework
- Ensuring that Newquay Tretherras' short, medium and long term planning contributes towards this scheme
- Ensuring that arrangements are in place to monitor and report on our progress against our action plans as well as our progress on integrating equality issues
- Ensuring that we engage effectively with stakeholders and local communities in delivering and monitoring the scheme.

Section 3 - The Race Duty and Community Cohesion

Race

Newquay Tretherras recognises that Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic people experience discrimination on the basis of colour, race, nationality, religion and ethnic origin. This discrimination manifests itself in all areas of their lives such as housing, employment, education and access to services. Racial harassment and violence is one of the most serious consequences of racism, damaging people emotionally and physically and limiting life choices and opportunities. Newquay Tretherras will take all necessary measures to prevent and tackle racial harassment and assist Black and Minority Ethnic people to live in freedom from harassment and to feel safe as they enjoy and achieve throughout their education

Newquay Tretherras is committed to working for the equality of all ethnic groups and the Governing Body understands its accountability.

Under the duty in the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 to promote racial equality we will:

1. Tackle unlawful discrimination by:

- Keeping accurate records of all ethnic and faith groups, their backgrounds and needs and how we respond to them
- Dealing with complaints of discrimination and harassment speedily according to Local Authority Guidance, *Guidelines for Challenging and Dealing with Racial Harassment in Schools* and notify complainants of the outcomes and action taken
- Encouraging dialogue between different racial groups on the appropriateness of our service offer
- Preventing racial discrimination and promoting equality of opportunity and good relations between members of different racial, cultural and religious groups

2. Support cohesion by:

- Promoting activities that celebrate our common experience as well as those that recognise diversity generally and foster understanding and respect for the culture and faith of all our students and their families
- Encouraging students (and their families) of all ethnic groups to participate fully in all aspects of school life
- Using our support for the voluntary and community sector to promote good race relations
- Countering myths and misinformation that may undermine good community relations

3. Work in partnership with Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic individuals and groups to:

- Promote the active participation of minority communities in shaping the future of our school
- Ensure Richard Lander School staff (both permanent and temporary), learners and their families as well as our partners and the wider community fully understand the principles of good race relations
- Expand access across all communities and in all areas of school activity

Community Cohesion

From September 2011 we understand our duty to Promote Community Cohesion as part of the response to the duties contained in the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000. Our school already considers this to be a fundamental part of our role.

We understand that Community Cohesion is the process that should happen in all communities to ensure that different groups and individual people get on well together. It should also allow for new residents and existing residents to adapt to one another.

At Newquay Tretherras

- We create a sense of shared values by celebrating the cultural diversity of our school community. We have an Olympic programme as part of the Tretherras Way in Year 8. There are dedicated schemes of work in our new PSHE curriculum. We host guests and have key speakers in assemblies – many of these have SMSC themes and Community Cohesion at their heart. We have a dedicated anti bullying week with assemblies presented by members of the school forum. There is an e-safety group who look at cyber bullying and the school has a strong student voice. We work closely with external agencies to support individual students.
- We develop an understanding in students that they all have a responsibility to their shared future through our curriculum, extra-curricular programme and Pastoral activities, including assemblies. The Academy has engaged in the International School's Award.
- Mutual respect, honesty, fairness and trust between different groups including students and teachers is embedded in the ethos of Newquay Tretherras.

We will evidence our effectiveness for OFSTED by demonstrating:

- A widely shared sense of the contribution of different communities to a shared vision
- A strong sense of individual rights and responsibilities within the school community
- That all children and parents feel they are being treated fairly and have the same opportunities
- That students trust Newquay Tretherras to act fairly
- We have strong and positive relationships between students and staff

Section 4 - The Disability Equality Duties

Newquay Tretherras' commitment to disabled learners, their families and staff's equality has four objectives:

(1) We will promote equality for disabled people by:

- Removing barriers to accessibility, particularly in relation to education, employment and access to services, information and buildings
- Encouraging good practice by our partners through our advisory capacity
- Upholding the Social Model and our guiding principles in our role in procurement and in our partnership duties

(2) We will tackle discrimination against disabled people by:

- Promoting positive images of disabled people
- Challenging patronising or discriminating attitudes
- Making the environment as safe as possible for and challenging antisocial or bullying behaviour against, or harassment of, disabled learners, staff and families

(3) We will support disabled learners to achieve their full potential by:

- Providing where possible, support, assistance and care to disabled learners to enable them to lead independent lives
- Supporting the formation of groups, networks and services for disabled learners and disabled employees of Newquay Tretherras and people who are disabled in the community
- Supporting disabled learners, staff and carers according to their individual need

(4) We will work in partnership with disabled learners and their carers and staff by:

- Enabling disabled learners, their families and disabled staff active participation
- Involving disabled learners, their families and disabled staff in the changes and improvements we make
- Consulting with disabled learners, their families and disabled staff on issues affecting them rather than with people acting on their behalf

We welcome the requirements of the Disability Equality Duty and this section sets out our commitment to meeting the Duty. Our Scheme shows how we promote disability equality across all areas of Newquay Tretherras, to disabled students, staff, parents, carers and other school users.

When carrying out our functions, we will have due regard to the need to:

- Promote equality of opportunity between disabled people and other people
- Eliminate discrimination that is unlawful under the Disability Discrimination Act (1995)
- Eliminate disability related harassment
- Promote positive attitudes towards disabled people
- Encourage participation of disabled people in public life
- Take steps to meet disabled people's needs, even if this requires more favourable treatment
- Monitor staff and learners by disability
- Have a Disability Equality Scheme

We provide access to education for disabled students by:

- Enabling disabled learners to participate in Newquay Tretherras' curriculum i.e. having dedicated teaching assistant staff who can sign for the hearing impaired.
- Increasing the inclusion of positive images of disabled people across the curriculum
- Improving the environment of Newquay Tretherras to increase the extent to which disabled learners can take advantage of education and associated services
- Improving the delivery of information to disabled learners, to the standard of which is provided in writing for learners who are not disabled.

Section 5 - Gender Equality Duties

Newquay Tretherras:

- Is committed to combating sex discrimination and sexism and promoting the equality of women and men
- Recognises that society has stereotypes for both women and men, and both women and men can lose opportunities because of these stereotypes
- Is aware that staff with caring and domestic responsibilities may need to work part-time or flexible working hours
- Will work in partnership with other agencies to eliminate sexual harassment, domestic violence and other hate crimes

- Is committed to ensuring the rights, under the Gender Recognition Act 2005, of transgender people (who have Gender Recognition Certificates).

We welcome the requirements of the Gender Equality Duty and this section sets out our commitment to meeting the duty. We will give due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination and harassment on the grounds of sex, including domestic violence, sexual violence, bullying and exploitation
- Promote equality of opportunity between women and men in all of our functions

At Newquay Tretherras:

- We monitor student progress in relation to their gender and set targets accordingly
- We address gender stereotyping in subject choices, careers advice and work related learning. This is also addressed through aspects of the curriculum
- Gender based disciplinary issues will be investigated and treated seriously. Anti Bullying Cornwall support our work as an independent partner, as do Connexions and the School Nurse service
- Gender issues such as sexual bullying, sexual exploitation, and domestic violence are addressed as part of PSHE curriculum, on specific enhanced curriculum days and as part of the pastoral system.
- Staffing levels, specialism and levels of responsibility are monitored with a view to ensuring there is good representation of each gender

Section 6 - Religion and Belief

Newquay Tretherras recognises that people can face discrimination because of attitudes in society towards the faith communities to which they belong. Faith-based hate crime has been a new phenomenon in recent years, developing a character that is distinct from race hate crime.

We also recognise that a person's religious (or similar) beliefs may mean that they have different needs, demands and expectations, which require flexibility.

We are committed to eliminating discrimination and exclusion on the basis of religion or belief.

We also recognise the need to consider the actions outlined by the Equality Act 2006 (Religion & Belief) which requires us to assess the impacts of our policies, functions and procedures have on promoting equality for people based on their religion, belief and non-belief.

Equality with regard to religion or belief is promoted at all levels at Newquay Tretherras and particularly within the EP and PSHE programmes of study. This work is supported by:

- Our SMSC programme of Themes for the week
- Celebrations of specific festivals – as part of the Ethics and Philosophy and PSHE Curriculum

- Marking key national / international events, such as National Holocaust Day
- Inviting visiting speakers into assembly and having developed assembly themes
- Raising awareness of local faith events
- Making provision for students to have space and dignity when practising their faith, or to take a course of study in their particular faith, if requested
- Flexibility to allow parents to request their children be withdrawn from RE lessons on moral / religious grounds

We will monitor the effectiveness of our policy regarding faith and belief discrimination through:

- Discussion with the Lead teachers for EP, regarding its priority on the curriculum and how it can best be supported
- Discussion with the Student Forum, student voice and curriculum surveys – subject specific(EP) and Kirkland and Rowell
- Analysing relevant behavioural incidents on a weekly basis at Care and Guidance meetings

Section 7 - Sexual Orientation

Newquay Tretherras is committed to combating discrimination faced by lesbians, gay men, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people. We aim to ensure equality of opportunity for LGB people across services and employment.

We will respect the rights of individuals to be open about their sexual orientation, tackle homophobia, challenge stereotyping and improve knowledge about LGBT communities, both internally and to the community as a whole.

Our school recognises the need to protect learners from unlawful discrimination and harassment on grounds of sexual orientation as required by the Equality Act (Sexual Orientation) Regulations 2007. We are committed to taking a pro-active approach to preventing all forms of homophobia within Newquay Tretherras and will assess the impact of our policies, functions and procedures on promoting sexual orientation equality as part of the Equality Impact Assessment process.

We will deal with complaints of discrimination and harassment speedily and according to Local Authority Guidance and notify complainants of the outcome and actions taken.

At Newquay Tretherras:

- Homophobic bullying, language and stereotypes will be challenged
- The PSHE curriculum will address these issues and invites speakers from other agencies to lead sessions i.e. Brook
- The pastoral system and multiagency approaches are used to support specific students as required.

Section 8 – Age

Newquay Tretherras is committed to promoting equality of opportunity for younger and older people. We recognise that society has negative attitudes, stereotypes and myths about youth, ageing, younger and older people. These attitudes and beliefs can lead to both younger and older people being socially and economically disadvantaged, excluded and marginalised. We believe that all people have the right to equality of opportunity and that they make a significant and valuable contribution to the community at large.

Age equality means securing the equal participation in society of people of every age, securing a balance between equal citizenship, equality of opportunity, equality of outcome and respect for difference.

Section 9 - Anti-bullying and Discriminatory Policy Framework

All forms of bullying and discrimination are unacceptable and will not be tolerated. We have set out the measures that we will take to address bullying and discriminatory incidents in our Anti-Bullying Policy. We submit data regarding bullying and discriminatory incidents to the Local Authority

Our objectives are to prevent harassment or bullying of any kind and create an ethos where acceptance, tolerance and respect for others are the hallmarks of all we do. We will draw particular attention to this through:

- Our wider school policies
- Our assembly programme
- The curriculum (e.g. PSHE,EP)
- Student guidance (Pastoral, agencies i.e. Connexions)

Students are encouraged to speak to another student or adult if there is an issue with bullying. This could be their year 11 buddy, teacher, mentor, form tutor, Head of Year or a member of the Leadership Team (LT/SLT). With regard to issues of safeguarding, students are encouraged to report this to the Designated Child Protection Person (Mrs Goswell or Miss McGlynn- Deputy).

Our anti-bullying policy is reviewed annually and will next be reviewed in July 2012, in line with Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Safeguarding Children Board Anti-Bullying and Discriminatory Policy Framework.

The impact of our policy will be assessed through:

- Termly analysis of behavioural incidents and exclusions analysis(C&G meetings)
- School Forum feedback
- Student and parent surveys – Kirkland and Rowell
- Communication with external partners such as Anti-Bullying Cornwall (A.B.C.) and Connexions

Staff receive relevant training in relation to bullying and discriminatory incidents relating to homophobia, racism, disability harassment, sexual and gender bullying, and religious harassment.

Newquay Tretherras subscribes to the Anti-Bullying Cornwall Consortium's good practice in recording bullying and discriminatory incidents and reporting them in accordance with Local Authority guidelines.

Section 10 - Employment Practices

Newquay Tretherras observes the principles of equal opportunities in how we employ, develop and treat our staff.

We will ensure:

- We observe and implement the principles of equal opportunities in employment by adhering to Local Authority guidelines.
- We are fully compliant with the requirements of Safer Recruitment legislation and that staff who manage the employment and recruitment processes have undertaken the required training
- All teaching staff are subject to performance management and support staff have an annual review
- The school will adopt the Local Authority Manual of Personnel Practice and will follow the advice of Local Authority officers in all matters regarding employment matters

Section 11 - Equality Impact Assessments

We are reviewing key policies, functions and procedures relevant to meeting the duties set out under race, gender, disability and religion or belief legislation. In line with best practice we will also assess the impact of our key policies, functions and procedures on promoting sexual orientation equality.

The main system by which we will assess the impact of our current policies, functions or procedures will be through carrying out Equality Impact Assessments. This will also inform future planning and focus.

We follow Cornwall Council guidance in these matters. Staff and Governors who are responsible for carrying out these assessments will attend relevant training.

At Newquay Tretherras we will carry out equality impact assessments on the following policies and between September 2011 and August 2013.

- Admissions and Transfer
- Attendance
- Exclusions
- National Healthy School Status
- Anti-bullying policy
- School trips

Section 12 - Consultation and Information

We will involve stakeholders in the preparation of this scheme in the following ways:

- **Students** – The scheme will be discussed in PSHE lessons and student comments will be fed back to the LT by JMG. The LT will also meet with the School Forum and discuss both the Scheme plus wider issues they raise with regard to equality and discrimination

- **Parents** – The Scheme will be put onto the website and parents will be notified of this.
- **Staff** – The Scheme will be shared with all staff. Comments about it will be welcomed, either individually or through union representatives
- **External Partners** – The school will discuss the Scheme, plus associated school policies, with the school’s Educational Welfare Officer and Connexions service

Section 13 - Equality Scheme Objectives

This section sets out the objective we have identified in order to eliminate discrimination and harassment and promotion of equality in relation to gender, race, disability, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

We are pleased to note that incidents of harassment and bullying are low at Newquay Tretherras and this is to the credit of all members of the school community, as we each play our part in creating a unique school ethos. However, we will not use this to become complacent and will continue to ensure that at all times; bullying and discrimination are challenged and replaced with opportunity, relationship and community.

Objective:

- 1 To ensure all student groups identified within the Single Equality Scheme (SES), have the same access, provision and opportunity as all other students and they are successful in all aspects of attainment and other outcomes.
- 2 To ensure in all aspects of its work, Newquay Tretherras celebrates diversity and challenges discrimination and in doing so, has a positive impact on shaping the values of its community and contributes positively to all aspects of social cohesion.

These objectives feed directly into the school’s Single Equality Scheme Action Plan.

Section 14 - Roles and responsibilities

The Governing body accepts their responsibility to promote equality and eliminate discrimination and harassment, as outlined in the Scheme. They will ensure the school meets the requirements of the Race, Disability and Gender Equality Duties, and meets the requirements of the Equality Act 2006 Religion and belief and Equality Act (Sexual Orientation) Regulations 2007.

They will do this through:

- Close involvement in the formulation and adoption of the SES policy
- Attendance at relevant Local Authority briefings
- Involvement in setting school priorities and systems for monitoring
- Ensuring the impact of the Scheme is reported at Governor meetings

Section 15 - Contracting and Procurement

Responsibility for ensuring compliance regarding equality issues rests with Newquay Tretherras as an Academy, and will be managed as per the Local Authority Equality Scheme, which forms the basis of the school Scheme.

Section 16 - Action Plan

The school has produced a Single Equality Scheme Action Plan. It sets out the key tasks the school will carry out to ensure the school is fully compliant with guidance and legislation. It will also develop current practice so that in all respects, our provision and effectiveness is outstanding.

Lead responsibility for ensuring the Single Equality Scheme is implemented and has lasting impact, lies with the Headteacher. Key delegated responsibility will lie with a designated Assistant Headteacher.

Section 17 - Reporting and reviewing the scheme

In line with the requirements of the Scheme we will produce an annual report on progress and review and revise Newquay Tretherras' Equality Scheme every three years. This will be presented to the Governing Body in the summer term.

Section 18 - Publication

Newquay Tretherras' Equality Scheme will be published on the school's website.

Section 19 - Complaints

If a member of the public feels that they have suffered harassment or been treated unfairly by the school because of their sex, colour, race, nationality, ethnic group, regional or national origin, age, marital status, disability, political or religious belief, sexual orientation or class, they should report this without fail through Newquay Tretherras' complaints procedure.

Complaints by staff will be dealt with under the Dignity at Work Policy or under the Staff Grievance procedure as appropriate.

We take all external and internal complaints seriously and will not tolerate any form of discriminatory behaviour. Complaints about staff will be investigated using the Academies complaints procedures.

Monitoring complaints is also another way of gathering information to see whether we are meeting our equality duties. We will report annually on complaints made and action taken as part of monitoring the Single Equalities Scheme.

Next Review Date: Dec 2014