

St Luke's C of E Primary School
Social Inclusion – Policy

Policy for Social Inclusion
Wellbeing Committee
Reviewed: Autumn 2019
For Review: Autumn 2022

Introduction:

This document is a statement of the aims, principles and strategies for Social Inclusion. This policy will be reviewed by the governors in line with the Staff Handbook renewal schedule to measure its impact on teaching and learning throughout the school. (Strategic Planner)

The focus of social inclusion is on raising educational attainment for those pupils who are:

- demonstrating disaffection or failing to participate fully in the school experience through challenging behaviour, poor attendance or through learning difficulties
- minority ethnic and faith groups
- travellers
- asylum seekers and refugees
- children in public care/looked after
- young carers
- children who are victims of drugs and abuse or other substances
- homeless children
- children with mental health needs
- victims of abuse and domestic violence.

The school is committed to the following principles:

- to meet the needs of all their pupils, including those who may be missing out, difficult to engage or feeling in some way apart from what the school seeks to provide
- early intervention, especially the identification of pupils at risk of disaffection and proactive planning to meet their needs, is essential
- social inclusion is best promoted when the teaching and learning within the school is of the highest possible standard in order to enhance the educational experience of every child. Ensuring social inclusion is the responsibility of every member of staff, teaching and non-teaching
- children and their parents are entitled to be treated fairly with respect to important educational decisions which affect their lives, especially concerning admission, attendance, exclusion and assessment for any special needs. Procedures will be applied in accordance with DfE, OFSTED and LA guidance.

Admissions

St Luke's operates its admission procedures in accordance with the policy laid down by the governors. This policy will not discriminate on grounds of race, religion or ethnic origin. (See Admissions Policy) The school is open to consider the entry to pupils on the grounds that they have special, social, educational or behavioural needs or because they have a history of disruption. St Luke's is willing to consider offering new opportunities to pupils who have experienced difficulties previously where it is reasonable to do so. Parents and pupils will be asked to make agreements as to future conduct and attendance but such an agreement will not be used as a condition of entry.

Attendance

Pupils are expected to attend the school full-time (depending on age) unless the reason for their absence is unavoidable. Parents are expected to work closely with school staff in resolving any difficulties at an early stage. The school will operate in accordance with the prescribed regulations covering the marking of registers, granting of leave, the removal of pupils from roll and the authorisation of absence. The school will

closely monitor attendance and will follow up on any pattern of absence with a view to assisting parents and carers in improving the pupil's attendance. Maximising attendance at St Luke's is a priority and the school will seek creative solutions to attendance problems wherever possible, recognising any particular needs of individuals or groups. **(See attendance and absences policy)**

Behaviour

At St Luke's we set high standards of behaviour for our pupils. We value the community and respect each individual, both staff and pupils. Racism, sexism and other forms of discrimination are not acceptable. We aim to prepare pupils for living in a diverse and increasingly interdependent society. Where pupils infringe these standards, the school will seek to respond in a way which sees the behaviour as unacceptable but still recognises the needs of the individual who carried it out. **(See Behaviour Policy and PSHE policy)**

Sanctions will be applied fairly in accordance with DfE guidance and exclusion used only as a last resort when no other alternatives are available. **(See Exclusion Policy)**

Strategies

St Luke's is seeking to promote social inclusion in the following specific ways:

- use of staff training
- Support programmes and curricular developments eg after school clubs and links with schools in the borough, Diocese and in other areas of the world, through joint cultural and citizenship projects
- pastoral systems (See PSHE policies)
- home/school partnership agreements
- working with other Agencies e.g. AfC and Business Partnership, social services and health clinics
- monitoring teaching and learning
- evaluating assessment data and school surveys

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