

Worlingham CEVC Primary School

COMMUNITY COHESION POLICY

There is a duty for schools to promote community cohesion under the Education and Inspections Act 2006. The DfE definition of community cohesion is: ‘...a society in which

- There is a common vision and sense of belonging by all communities;
- The diversity of people’s backgrounds and circumstances is appreciated and valued;
- Similar life opportunities are available to all; and
- Strong and positive relationships exist and continue to be developed in the workplace, in schools and in the wider community.’

Introduction

This policy shows how all members of Worlingham CEVC Primary School will meet their duty to promote community cohesion. Worlingham CEVC Primary School is an inclusive school.

Through our ethos and curriculum we promote a sense of identity which in turn supports our understanding of diversity to nurture a thriving, cohesive society. We wish to recognise and celebrate the diversity within our local, regional, national and global communities and the contributions made by these communities.

Partnerships with parents, Governors and the wider community are essential to promote equality, diversity and community cohesion.

We believe that to prepare our children for living and working in a diverse and cohesive society Worlingham CEVC Primary school should work with the children to:

- Encourage a strong sense of their own identity not only as individuals but as part of different community groups.
- Understand others.
- Understand the idea of shared values and what they mean to us as individuals.
- Develop open, positive attitudes towards diversity with the understanding and confidence to challenge prejudice, discrimination and stereotyping.
- Support their development as active citizens within the community.
- Provide opportunities to find out more about and positively interact with people from a range of backgrounds within the local community as well as the wider society.
- Ensure they receive a broad and balanced curriculum which uses elements from the local, national and global communities to further their learning.
- Provide strong spiritual, moral, social and cultural support and teaching to enable all aims to be achieved.
- Recognise and celebrate diversity across the school and within the wider community.
- Recognise and celebrate the opportunity to become part of a faith community.

We strive to ensure that the culture and ethos of the school reflects the diversity of all members of the school community, where everyone is equally valued and treat one another with respect and fairness.

Community from a School’s Perspective

For schools, the term ‘community’ has a number of dimensions including:

- The school community – this includes the children, parents, carers, families, staff, Governing Body and community users of the school’s facilities and services.
- The community within which the school is located – the geographical community, the people who live and work in that area and the local faith community.

- The UK community – all schools are part of this community.
- The global community – formed by the European Union and international links.

Equality and Excellence

At Worlingham CEVC Primary School we all strive to ensure that there are equal opportunities for all to succeed at the highest level possible, removing barriers to access and participation in learning and wider activities.

Engagement and Ethos

We aim to provide a means for children and their families to interact with people from different backgrounds and build positive relations, including links with different schools and communities locally, nationally and internationally. Partnership arrangements with other schools provide an opportunity to share good practice and offer pupils the opportunity to meet and learn from other young people from different backgrounds.

At Worlingham CEVC Primary School we aspire to have high standards of teaching and learning with a curriculum which supports high standards of attainment. Opportunities for discussing issues of identity and diversity are integrated across the curriculum.

School, Parents and the Community

The school involves as many people as possible in engaging with the school and its community. This is achieved by:

- Working with members of the community, encouraging them to visit the school to work with the children.
- Multi-agency working between the school and local agencies.
- Engagement with parents e.g. through curriculum meetings, parents' evenings, open events and providing signposting to the wide provision of extended services available.
- Engagement with the Governing Body through meetings and more informal events linked to the school.
- Engagement with the local faith community through visits to the school by representatives and visits by the school to the parish Church.