

EQUALITY POLICY



Lead:	DB
Date Approved:	May 25
Review Date:	May 26
Chair of Governors:	Mr P McLoughlin



loving
hopeful
curious
attentive
faith-filled
generous
eloquent
intentional
learned
prophetic
wise
grateful
discerning
compassionate
truthful
active

SUCCESSFUL RESILIENT GOSPEL VALUES

EQUALITY POLICY

AIM

This document details the school's commitment to equal opportunities and fulfilling its legal obligations under the Equality Act 2010. It provides protection under the Act for all protected characteristics:

- age
- disability
- gender reassignment
- marriage and civil partnership
- pregnancy and maternity
- race
- religion or belief
- sex
- sexual orientation

This document sets out how St Richard Gwyn intends to comply with this requirement. This policy is a positive commitment by the school to work towards equality of opportunity and to ensure that discrimination and harassment are combated.

SCOPE

This policy covers all employees of the school. Direct services such as catering, cleaning, ground maintenance and building contractors are outside the scope of the policy. However, it must be borne in mind that liability can be accrued if any school employee aids any such contractor to discriminate against any of its own employees or workers. Accordingly, where relevant and reasonably possible all employees of the school should apply the principles of the equal opportunities policy to any dealings, they have with any person engaged to carry out work for the school or on its premises.

This policy provides a framework for governing bodies and headteachers to provide consistent support and guidance to their employees.

The policy covers all education and associated services for pupils and prospective pupils including extra-curricular activities and school trips.

EQUALITY POLICY

STATEMENT OF VALUES

St Richard Gwyn will work towards ensuring that the curriculum, extra curricular activities, organisation and management of the school shall be such that no individual within the school community will be denied opportunities or receive less favourable treatment on the grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation .

St Richard Gwyn embraces equality of opportunity in employment irrespective of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation . Unfair assumptions, stereotypes, prejudices, and discrimination are all unacceptable in the drive towards equalities.

St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School strives to ensure that the culture and ethos of the school are such that, all members of the school community (students, staff, families, governors and school partners) will be equally valued, and will treat one another with respect. Everyone should be provided with the opportunity to experience, understand and celebrate diversity.

PRINCIPLES

Promoting Equality of Opportunity in teaching and curriculum.

In order to make the whole curriculum and extra curricular activities (including school trips) accessible for all pupils at the school we shall foster a climate in which equality of opportunity is supported by a policy to which the whole school subscribes and in which positive attitudes to gender, equality, cultural diversity and special needs of all kinds are actively promoted.

Equal Opportunities is about assisting all children/individuals to fulfil their potential. There is a commitment to providing equal opportunities for all pupils and a recognition that preparation for life in a diverse and multicultural society is relevant, thus permeating every aspect of the National Curriculum.

Guidance for personal and social education should enable pupils to

- Recognise and value cultural differences and diversity
 - Respect others, value their achievements and their uniqueness and recognise the importance of equality of opportunity
 - Value and celebrate cultural difference and diversity
 - Value cultural diversity and equal opportunity and respect the dignity of all
 - Be moved by injustice, exploitation, and denial of human rights
 - Understand cultural differences and recognise expressions of prejudice and stereotyping
 - Value cultural diversity and equal opportunity and respect the dignity of all
 - Recognise and know how to challenge expressions of prejudice and stereotyping.
-

EQUALITY POLICY

The school will take account of and challenge attitudes and stereotypes present in society, which consider that some subjects are less or more relevant for one gender than for the other gender. The school will also deal explicitly with gender issues including peer pressure and sexual harassment as well as developing personal skills such as co-operation and negotiation and analyse resources for gender bias.

For pupils from ethnic minority backgrounds this school recognises that there may be a need for language support in the classroom and take into account the fact that learning is likely to be influenced by different cultural backgrounds and different experiences (see also Strategic Equality Scheme).

Introducing multicultural perspectives into the curriculum will be a way of enriching the education of all our pupils. It will give pupils the opportunity to view the world from different standpoints, helping them to question prejudice and open-mindedness.

The governing body will not treat a pupil less favourably or discriminate against a pupil without justification by refusing admission to them or excluding them from the school for a reason related to the pupil's disability, race, or gender (very limited permitted forms of selection may however act as a justification).

TACKLING DISCRIMINATION

In this school any form of direct or indirect discrimination (less favourable treatment) based on age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation will be unacceptable.

St Richard Gwyn is committed to showing respect and appreciation of individuals and to educating and preparing pupils to live in a culturally diverse society. This school is committed to remove unfair stereotypes and/or prejudices and barriers/obstacles to learning.

EMPLOYMENT

This school will aim to ensure that every job applicant and employee receives equality of opportunity regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation and is not disadvantaged by any conditions or requirements which cannot be shown to be justified. Individuals will be selected, promoted and treated in their general employment based on their relevant merits and abilities.

EQUALITY POLICY

The Equality Act 2010 gives both women and men the right to equal pay for equal work, with women and men being legally entitled to be paid at the same rate for like work, work rated as equivalent, and work of equal value. As set out in the Equality Act 2010, men and women in the same employment performing equal work must receive equal pay, unless any difference in pay can be justified. Governing bodies will need to take the provisions of the Equality Act into account when exercising their powers in respect of terms and conditions on which staff are to be appointed.

This extends to all school employees and potential employees and school governors. The governing body will be responsible for defining jobs where there is a genuine occupational qualification or requirement (advice can be provided from the Council's Equality Section where required).

RESPONSIBILITY

All employees and members of the school share the responsibility to ensure that the school's equal opportunities policy operates fairly and effectively. However, the major responsibilities are as follows:-

In summary the **governing body**:

- Must not unlawfully discriminate on the grounds of a protected characteristic
- Must take account of the Equality Act 2010 when implementing the provisions of the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions (Wales) Document and NJC terms and conditions.
- Should promote and practice consistent application of the equal opportunities and other relevant equality policies (e.g. Strategic Equality Plan, Access Strategies, Harassment and Bullying policy)
- Should ensure that all individuals with responsibility for staffing issues are fully aware of their responsibilities about equal opportunities

In summary the **headteacher**:

- Should abide by the provisions of equality legislation
 - Will take, as delegated by the Governing Body, a leading role in the implementation of the Equal Opportunities Policy
 - Will promote and put into practice the consistent application of the policy
 - Will communicate the school's equal opportunities policy to all teaching and non-teaching staff
 - Will ensure that teaching and non-teaching staff receive relevant training where required on equal opportunities legislation and good practice
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EQUALITY POLICY

In summary all other teaching and support staff:

- Should comply with the provisions set out in the school's equal opportunities policy
- Should be diligent when looking out for and dealing with any incidents including harassment and bullying relating to a pupil's protected characteristic (actual or perceived)
- Show respect and appreciation for pupils and other employees contributing towards a happy and caring environment
- Foster a sympathetic awareness and understanding of cultural diversity

BREACH OF THE POLICY

Breaches of policy will be dealt with in the same ways that breaches of other school policies are dealt with, e.g. staff disciplinary rules, racial harassment policy [pupil discipline]. Any appropriate action will be determined by the headteacher and governing body.

RESOURCES

Where possible, with the constraints placed upon it, the governing body will make available any resources appropriate to ensure the full and effective implementation of this policy.

A positive commitment will be made to identifying and resourcing the different needs of pupils/students to enable them to benefit to the fullest extent from the opportunities offered to them.

PUBLISHING THE POLICY

Staff will be informed of the Equal Opportunities Policy as part of their induction programme when joining the school.

EQUALITY POLICY

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES MONITORING

The School will develop or incorporate equality monitoring into relevant monitoring systems including:

The achievement of all pupils by gender, racial group, disability .

Recruitment/promotion and training monitoring data for staff by gender, racial group and disability.

Analysis of all complaints lodged by pupils or employees based on age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation.

The School's Race Equality Scheme also outlines specific monitoring requirements under the Race Relations (Amendment) Act (please refer to the Race Equality Scheme).

DATE OF NEXT REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed on the basis of every two years or in light of any developments in employment legislation or good employment practice.

This document can be made available in large print and other formats upon request.

EQUALITY POLICY APPENDIX



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EQUALITY POLICY (APPENDIX)

VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL EQUALITY POLICY

The aims of the St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School's Equality policy are in accordance with the school's Mission Statement which expresses the need to develop the full potential of every learner and to value his or her unique contribution to school life.



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THE PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY

We have put this policy in place to show:

- that we think equality is important;
- how we work towards equality; and
- how we want people to behave.

WHAT THE LAW SAYS

There is law to guide us in our work:

- the Equality Act 2010;
- the public sector equality duty; and
- specific duties for Wales;
- the Welsh Language Act 1993.

This law and these duties protect us all. There may be other laws which protect us in similar ways to these. We have a duty to think about the needs of people with protected characteristics (see below). We also have a duty to support good relationships across our community.

The Equality Act lists the protected characteristics. We explain them below.

Effective from April 2015 (subject to approval)

EQUALITY POLICY (APPENDIX)

PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS

Protected characteristic What this means **Age** People of different ages. This includes young and older people. **Disability** People who have a physical or mental impairment which has a big and long term impact on how they can carry out normal day-to-day activities.

This includes disabilities that you can see, for example, if someone uses an aid like a guide dog or a wheelchair. It also includes disabilities that you cannot see such as diabetes, dyslexia, autism, Asperger syndrome, poor mental health, and learning difficulties.

GENDER REASSIGNMENT

People who change the way they appear to others. This includes anyone who proposes to, starts, is going through or who has completed a process to change his or her gender.

A person does not need to have medical procedures for the law to protect them. For example, the law protects a woman who decides to live as a man without going through any medical procedures. It includes a person's own view of their gender and how they choose to present themselves (gender, marital or civil partnership status, pregnancy and maternity identity). This might fall outside or be a mix of male and female.

People who are married or who have a civil partner.

Women who are expecting a baby, who are on a break from work after having a baby, or who are breastfeeding. They are protected for 26 weeks after having a baby whether or not they are on maternity leave.

RACE

People of a different race, nationality, colour, culture or ethnic origin.

RELIGIOUS BELIEF OR NON-BELIEF

People with a religion or belief or with no religion or belief. The term 'religion' includes a religious or philosophical belief.

SEX, WOMEN AND MEN, & SEXUAL ORIENTATION

People who are attracted to other people of: · the same sex (lesbian or gay); the opposite sex (heterosexual); both sexes (bisexual).

Some people do not identify as male or female or they may identify as a mix of both. They may be attracted to people regardless of their gender identity or sex (pansexual).

EQUALITY POLICY (APPENDIX)

As well as the above characteristics, this policy covers two other areas:

Appearance

This is about how someone presents themselves. For example, people who wear gothic clothes, or hooded clothes.

Welsh Language People who communicate using the Welsh language.

The last two are not protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010. We take them into account for other reasons.

There have been cases of people being treated badly because of their appearance. For example, people wearing gothic clothes have been victims of hate crime; shop keepers have stopped young people wearing hooded tops going into shops. We want to provide the same level of service to people whatever their appearance.

We promote use of the Welsh language to meet our duties under the Welsh Language Act 1993 and the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.

PROTECTED GROUPS

'Protected groups' are people who are protected under equality law. People in a protected group share one or more of the protected characteristics. We all belong to more than one of these groups.

FAIR TREATMENT

In our work, we must treat everyone fairly and try to meet their needs. This means not treating someone worse because of who they are or what they look like. If we did, that would be discrimination.

We must not intimidate, humiliate or degrade anyone. We must not be hostile or offensive to anyone. If we did, that would be harassment.

We must not treat anyone badly because they have complained about unfair treatment or harassment. If we did, that would be victimisation.

We also have a duty to:

- treat people from different protected groups fairly;
- help people from different protected groups to get along well.
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Remember treating people 'equally' means giving people different types of support to do their jobs or use a service. It does not mean treating them the same.

EQUALITY POLICY (APPENDIX)

PLANS THAT SUPPORT THIS POLICY

We have a Strategic Equality Plan and Welsh Language Scheme.

- http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/our_council/equalities/strategic_equality_plan.aspx
- http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/our_council/equalities/welsh_language_scheme.aspx

These show the work that we do to promote equality. The Strategic Equality Plan tells people about our equality work and how we do it. It shows our main priorities. We call these equality objectives.

To develop these, we talked to lots of organisations and did some research. This helped us understand what we needed to improve for protected groups.

The Welsh Language Scheme is similar but it deals only with Welsh language issues. It tells people about the work we do to promote the Welsh language and actions we will take to improve on this. When new Welsh standards come into force, we will put in place a new action plan. This will replace the Welsh Language Scheme.

Each council service helps us to get our main priorities done. We have systems in place to monitor progress.

WHAT DOES EQUALITY MEAN TO US?

Equality is about meeting people's needs so that they can use a service or do a job. This can mean making adjustments to the way we provide a service or do a job.

We use the social model of disability. This model says that we, as a society, cause disability by the way we organise things. It looks at ways of removing barriers that restrict life choices for disabled people. When we do this, disabled people can be independent and equal in society. It gives people choice and control over their lives.

OUR GENERAL EQUALITY AIMS

- We want to do what we can to take away barriers to jobs, information, services, buildings and facilities.
 - We want to find and stop every day practices that discriminate (institutional discrimination – see below).
 - We want to raise awareness of the needs of different protected groups.
 - We want to challenge unfair beliefs about people.
 - We want to challenge overly simple ideas about people (stereotypes).
 - We want to challenge opinions based on too little knowledge or irrational feelings (prejudices).
 - We want to promote a culture that respects and values diversity and individuality.
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EQUALITY POLICY (APPENDIX)

INSTITUTIONAL DISCRIMINATION

This is a type of discrimination you can find in some organisations. It happens when the ways of working are unfair. This might be because of prejudice. It might be because nobody has thought about the needs of different groups of people.

OUR AIMS FOR THE WORKPLACE

- We want to treat people fairly and with respect.
- We want to support people to do a good job.
- We do not want people to face unwanted behaviour.
- We want to make decisions about people based on their ability.
- We want people to be able to work for us or use our services whatever their protected characteristics.

OUR AIMS FOR PEOPLE LIVING AND WORKING IN THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN

We want the Vale of Glamorgan to be a pleasant place to live and work.

- We want it to be a safe, clean and attractive place.
- We want people to be able to improve their health, wellbeing and happiness, and wealth.
- We want people to be able to learn, train, and improve their skills.
- We want to help to make their community a good place to live. To help this happen, we aim to:
 - 1.offer services fairly to people, and with respect;
 - 2.talk to people to find out their needs;
 - 3.support community groups where their needs have not been met as well as those of other groups;
 - 4.support those who are not as well off or have particular needs to take part in community activities;
 - 5.support people to live well together in their communities;
 - 6.tell people where they can go to report unlawful, unfair or unwanted treatment;
 - 7.stop unfair treatment that is against the law;
 - 8.say that we promote equality in other policies;
 - 9.tell people about this policy.

As part of our promise to promote equality, we know that people need to have similar life opportunities whatever their backgrounds;

- know their rights and responsibilities;
- trust us to act fairly;
- share a vision of the future and have a sense of belonging;
- look at what communities have in common and value diversity; and
- have good relationships with people from different backgrounds.

We support equality and community cohesion across the Vale of Glamorgan.

EQUALITY POLICY (APPENDIX)

HOW HAS THIS POLICY BEEN DEVELOPED?

This policy has been developed by talking to:

- a group of employees from key service areas;
- councillors, employees, trade union representatives;
- groups who know about the needs of people with protected characteristics.

We also published the draft policy for comments from the public and staff.

WHO MUST FOLLOW THIS POLICY

People who work for or on behalf of the Council must follow this policy. This includes:

- councillors;
- managers;
- employees;
- contract workers;
- agency workers;
- trainee workers;
- contractors;
- volunteers;
- students on work experience or placements; and
- organisations and others that provide a service on our behalf.

WHAT MUST WE DO?

We all have a role to play in putting this policy into practice. The Cabinet takes the lead and the Leader of the Council has a special duty for equality.

We provide information and training on equality. This can help people better understand how to work in a fair and respectful way.

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Show respect for others, treat them fairly and be sensitive to their needs.
 - Do not bully or harass any person.
 - Do not use power or position to stop people from complying with this policy.
 - Create fair chances for people to work well and access services.
 - Support people to work well together.
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EQUALITY POLICY (APPENDIX)

- Think about the impact of services as you develop them. Use research and engage with people to understand the impact.
- Think about how you can stop or lessen the damaging effects of policies and decisions.
- Provide resources to support equality in the workplace and the community.
- Make sure that we meet our equality commitments across the Council.
- Show leadership on equality issues.
- Help achieve actions in the Strategic Equality Plan and Welsh Language Scheme.
- Make sure work plans say what equality work we will do.
- Provide information each year on your equality and Welsh language work. We will include this in our yearly monitoring reports.
- Be fair and supportive to people in the workplace.
- Provide training and information on equality law and the needs of protected groups.
- Have systems in place to monitor who is using our services. Analyse this by protected characteristic to see if you need to make improvements.
- Involve people in policy and decision making. This allows us to take their needs into account.
- Remove barriers to services where possible so that a range of people can access them.
- Do not make jokes, offensive remarks or show disrespectful images about people's protected characteristics.
- Have due regard for meeting the needs of people where these needs arise from their protected characteristics or because they wish to use the Welsh language.
- Tell managers about anything that you think might discriminate or be against the law.
- Act in line with this policy in or near the workplace and at work related events.

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

We aim to:

- use recruitment and promotion processes that promote equal opportunities and do not discriminate;
 - allow only employees trained in non-discriminatory techniques to assess for recruitment or promotion;
 - make fair, unbiased and lawful decisions about recruitment and selection, promotion, training or other benefits;
 - take positive action to encourage, train and recruit employees from particular protected groups where we have objective evidence that this will help us to develop a more diverse workforce;
 - include equality in the job descriptions, work objectives and competencies of employees; Vale of Glamorgan Council Equality Policy
 - treat job applicants, employees and others who work for the Council fairly, taking into account needs arising from their protected characteristics;
 - create a diverse workforce, monitoring the outcome of recruitment and selection to make sure this happens.
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EQUALITY POLICY (APPENDIX)

TRAINING AND AWARENESS RAISING

We aim to:

- tell staff about this policy in the best way for the team they work in (for example, through team meetings);
- tell staff about equality law and let them know what they should do for people with different needs.
- provide equality training and advice.

CONDUCT

We aim to:

- act in line with the law and our own policies;
- stop harmful jokes, comments and images that can be offensive and create an uncomfortable working environment;
- stop unfair or unwanted behaviour that is against the law (discrimination, harassment or victimisation);
- support employees if they experience unwanted behaviour and take appropriate action to deal with it.

PERSONAL AND SENSITIVE INFORMATION

We have to deal with people's personal information in confidence and within the law.

PROMOTING EQUALITY

We aim to:

- support people from protected groups to take opportunities, when suitable;
 - tell contractors and partners about this policy and promote equalities when we get or buy goods or services from other organisations;
 - expect organisations with whom we do business to support our policies;
 - include actions in the Strategic Equality Plan and Welsh Language Scheme that will help us to improve our services and working life;
 - tell people about this policy, including groups who this policy affects.
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EQUALITY POLICY (APPENDIX)

INVOLVING PEOPLE

We aim to:

- talk to lots of different people when we have new or changing services, policies and decisions;
- talk to groups that know about the needs of protected groups so that services meet their needs; and
- use venues that people can easily access for public events.

GOOD RELATIONSHIPS IN THE WORKPLACE AND COMMUNITY

We aim to support people to get along and treat one another with respect in communities and in work.

REPORTING UNWANTED BEHAVIOUR (DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT OR VICTIMISATION)

We aim to report unwanted behaviour that we see to organisations or groups that need to know.

INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY

We aim to:

- write information in plain language, free from jargon.
- use images that show the diverse range of people who live in our community.
- provide information in English and Welsh where our Welsh Language Scheme says that we will do this.

BREACH OF POLICY

These practices will help us to:

- attract, keep and develop the talents of our employees; · deliver fair services that meet people's needs.

Everyone who works for the council must abide by the policy. If an employee does not comply with this policy, we may take disciplinary action. We may deal with serious breaches as gross misconduct and take action up to and including dismissal.

Individuals should also be aware that if they do not comply with this policy and equality law, we could take legal action against them.

EQUALITY POLICY (APPENDIX)

FEEDBACK FROM EMPLOYEES

Employees can tell us what has worked well for them or their customers by informing their line manager or the manager responsible for the service. If we know what works well, we can protect and promote that practice. If we know what has not worked, we can change the way we do it. There is a procedure for employees to report unwanted behaviour (discrimination, harassment or victimisation). Details are on StaffNet or someone in Human Resource Services can provide a copy.

We will deal with complaints of discrimination promptly and in confidence.

We will take disciplinary action against anyone who treats someone unfairly because he or she has made a complaint (victimisation). This could lead to dismissal.

FEEDBACK FROM THE PUBLIC OR OTHER ORGANISATIONS

We are committed to treating people fairly and with care, but sometimes, despite our best efforts, things go wrong. We want to know about it. We also want to know when things go really well. Your feedback can help us to learn what is going well and what we might need to improve.

We have a corporate complaints procedure. It is available on our website or from the contact centre.

FEEDBACK FROM JOB APPLICANTS

People applying for jobs can use the corporate complaints procedure to tell us if they think they were discriminated against or harassed.

Feedback can be given by:

MAIL

- Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU

TEXT

- text your message to 60066

TELEPHONE

- phone contact centre 01446 700111

WEBSITE

- complete an online form www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or
- www.bromorgannwg.gov.uk

EMAIL

- nhinton@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or
 - ljbrown@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk
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FEEDBACK TO SOCIAL SERVICES

The Social Services Directorate has its own procedure for complaints and compliments. You can ring 01446 704800 to get a copy of this procedure.

PROMOTING THE POLICY

It is important that people know about this policy. To do this, we will tell people about it in a number of ways:

- website;
- intranet;
- email bulletins;
- application packs;
- induction packs;
- meetings with groups;
- presentations;
- team meetings;
- staff notice boards;
- 'cascade' systems;
- core brief;
- training;
- contracts of employment;
- handbooks;
- circulars and letters;
- newsletters; and
- annual reports.

We can provide information in other formats, for example, larger font or easy read.

EQUALITY IN PRACTICE

You can find examples of the work we do in our annual equality monitoring report. You can find this on our website on the equality pages.

[http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/our_council/equalities/Annual Equality- Monitoring- Report.aspx](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/our_council/equalities/Annual%20Equality%20Monitoring%20Report.aspx)

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EQUALITIES ON OUR WEBSITE

We have guidance on a range of equality issues on our website.

<http://staffnet.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/Directorates/Resources/Performance-and-Development/Equalities/Equalities-Policies-and-Guidance.aspx>

This includes:

- Access Guidance for Building Managers;
- Consulting Disabled People;
- Disability Access Checklist;
- Equality Handbook;
- Equality Impact Assessments;
- Open Meeting Guidelines;
- The Role of Overview and Scrutiny in Assessing Equality Performance*.
- We also have guidance specifically for schools:
- Briefing on Equality Act and Specific Duties for School Governors;
- Briefing on Public Sector Equality Duties in Wales – Education and Schools*;
- Equality Risks in Education*;
- Equality Issues in Education*;
- Annual Equality Monitoring Report Template for Schools *.

* The Welsh Local Government Association produced these publications.

POLICIES

We have the following policies in place:

- Career Break;
 - Carer;
 - Harassment and Bullying;
 - HIV and Aids;
 - Job Share;
 - Maternity & Adoption Leave/Pay;
 - Parental Leave;
 - Procurement Policy, Strategy and Guidance; and
 - Code of Conduct for Elected Members.
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EQUALITY POLICY (APPENDIX)

MONITORING AND REVIEW

We aim to develop monitoring systems to make sure this policy is working successfully.

We aim to develop systems for producing information on employment and how our services are being used (or not used) by each protected group. We will include this information in our annual monitoring reports on equality and the Welsh language. You can find these on the equality pages of our website.

This will help us to understand how our equality work is progressing, including how we are complying with this policy. We will develop an action plan to deal with areas where we need to make improvements.

REPORTING

The Managing Director has responsibility for reporting on how this policy is working in practice. This will be done as part of the annual monitoring reports on equality and the Welsh language.

[http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/our_council/equalities/Annual Equality-Monitoring-Report.aspx](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/our_council/equalities/Annual%20Equality-Monitoring-Report.aspx)

http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/our_council/equalities/welsh_language_scheme.aspx

REVIEW OF THIS POLICY

This policy explains what we do to promote equality. There is more information about this in our Strategic Equality Plan and Welsh Language Scheme which are on our website:

[http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/our_council/equalities/Annual Equality-Monitoring-Report.aspx](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/our_council/equalities/Annual%20Equality-Monitoring-Report.aspx)

http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/our_council/equalities/welsh_language_scheme.aspx

Each year, we will review our progress on putting this policy into practice. We will do this at the same time that we review progress with our Strategic Equality Plan and Welsh Language Scheme.

We will formally review this Policy when we set new equality objectives for the Strategic Equality Plan.

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GLOSSARY

- Access – How you get into or use a building.
 - Agency workers – someone who has a job with an agency or organisation. The agency pays that person to do work for another organisation (in this case the Council)
 - Annual equality monitoring report – A report which sets out the work that we have done each year to meet our duties under equality law.
 - Cabinet – A group of councillors who make policies and decisions for the Council. This includes decisions about plans, services, and budgets.
 - Competencies – The skills and knowledge you need to do a job.
 - Contract workers – Workers who we contract to do a specific job for the Council. We do not employ these workers.
 - Corporate Complaints Procedure – The formal system people can use to make a complaint to our Council.
 - Discrimination – This means treating someone worse because of who they are or what they look like.
 - Equality – This means everyone having the same chances to do what they can. Some people may need extra help to get the same chances.
 - Equality Act 2010 – This is the Government's new law to make sure all people are treated fairly. The Act became law when Parliament agreed it was right.
 - Equality objectives – These are targets that help us focus on the areas of equality work that we have decided are most important. We decide what they are by looking at research and talking to people who work for us and who live in this local authority.
 - Harassment – This is when someone intimidates, humiliates or degrades someone because of who they are or what they look like.
 - Human Resource Services – This is the department in the Council that deals with staffing matters.
 - Impairment – A long-term limitation of a person's physical, mental or sensory ability.
 - Institutional discrimination – This is a type of discrimination that you can find in some organisations. It happens when the ways of working are unfair. This might be because of prejudice. It might be because nobody has thought about the needs of different groups of people.
 - Jargon – Language that is often used by a particular group of people and is difficult for others to understand.
 - Leader – The councillor in charge of the Cabinet (see above).
 - Protected characteristics – These are the characteristics that are protected under the Equality Act 2010. We list and explain them in the policy.
 - Protected groups – People protected under equality law. People in a protected group share one or more of the protected characteristics.
 - Promotion – This is getting a better level of job.
 - Public sector equality duty – This is a law for public bodies telling us how we must think about making our work support equality. For example, in our services, through our jobs, and through the money we spend.
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EQUALITY POLICY (APPENDIX)

- Recruitment – This is taking on new staff.
 - Retention – This is keeping the staff we already have.
 - Selection – This is choosing which people to give jobs to.
 - Social Services Directorate – This is the department in the Council that supports families and safeguards children. It also provides services to adults and older people with physical and learning disabilities. Specific duties These are the duties that public bodies in Wales have to follow to show they are working on equality.
 - Strategic Equality Plan – This is a plan to tell people about the local authority, the equality work that we are already doing and what we intend to do to improve equality for staff and people who live here.
 - Victimisation – This is treating someone badly because they have complained about unfair treatment or harassment.
 - Welsh Language Act – This is the law that tells public bodies what they need to do to promote the Welsh language.
 - Welsh Language Scheme – This is the plan which sets out what we will do to promote the Welsh language.
 - Work objectives These are targets to make improvements in different areas of our work.
 - Workforce This is the staff we employ.
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