

## Community Cohesion Policy 2019

### Policy Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

This policy is effective for North Mead Primary Academy

<b>Version:</b>	0.3
<b>Date created:</b>	Sept 2019
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<b>Date:</b>	Sept 2019
<b>Review date:</b>	Sept 2022

### Revision History:

Version	Date	Author	Summary of Changes:
0.1	June 2011	NHPS	Due for review
0.2	30.09.2016	CL	To reflect Academy status
0.3	Sept 2019	VR	School name change and due for review

## Community Cohesion Policy 2019

### Rationale

We passionately believe that it is the duty of all schools to address issues of ‘how we live together’ and ‘dealing with difference,’ however controversial and difficult they might sometimes seem.’

**(The Diversity and Citizenship Curriculum Review 2007)**

There is a duty for schools to promote community cohesion under the Education and Inspections Act 2006.

Community cohesion lies at the heart of what makes a strong and safe community. It must be delivered locally through creating strong networks, based on principles of trust, and respect for local diversity, and nurturing a sense of belonging and confidence in local people. Effectively delivering community cohesion also tackles the fractures in society which may lead to conflict and ensures that the gains that communities bring are a source of strength to local areas.

### School Ethos

**‘Together we make a positive difference.’**

At North Mead Primary Academy, we fundamentally believe that every child is unique and that they have an entitlement to a first class education.

Our core aims are:

- To always be looking for new ideas to improve our school and the lives of our young people.
- To develop learning behaviours which empower and create successful lifelong learners who are equipped and skilled to flourish and succeed.
- To create a unique curriculum that enables every child to succeed personally, academically and creatively.
- To work professionally as a staff team with children, families, the community, governors and the Trust so that we can make a positive difference and continue to go from strength to strength.
- To create a safe, nurturing and friendly environment where children feel secure, valued and are able to become self-disciplined, self-confident and independent learners.
- To create responsible citizens who have an understanding and appreciation of the community that they live in and for life in modern Britain.

### What is Community Cohesion?

By Community Cohesion, we mean working towards a society in which there is a common vision and sense of belonging by all communities; a society in which the diversity of people's backgrounds and circumstances is appreciated and valued; a society in which similar life opportunities are available to all; and a society in which strong and positive relationships exist and continue to be developed in the workplace, in schools and the wider community.

### **Community from North Mead Primary Academy's perspective:**

For North Mead Primary Academy, the term 'community' has a number of dimensions including:

- The school community – pupils it serves, their families and the school's staff;
- The community within which the school is located – the school within the community of Northfield in Leicester and the people who live in the local area;
- The community of Britain – all schools are by definition part of this community;
- The global community – formed by European and international links.

### **Our Strategic Aims and objectives**

- Our Community Cohesion Policy will be reviewed on an annual basis.
- Our Equality Scheme will include actions linked to promoting community cohesion.
- The Governing Body will take positive steps to promote good community relations.
- We will work towards challenging any forms of prejudice towards groups and individuals.
- All teachers will promote community cohesion through a diverse curriculum.

### **Our Practice**

There are three areas where our practice can contribute most to Community Cohesion.

#### **1. Teaching, Learning and the Curriculum**

Promoting community cohesion through teaching, learning and the curriculum is at the centre of our daily duty. The Guidance describes this as 'helping children and young people to learn to understand others, to value diversity whilst also promoting shared values, to promote awareness of human rights and to apply and defend them, and to develop the skills of participation and responsible action'.

#### **Curriculum areas:**

- Religious Education
- PSHCE
- R-time

#### **Ethos of the School:**

- Equality Scheme
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Race Equality Policy
- Gender Equality Policy
- Inclusion Policy

- Behaviour Policy
- Community projects
- Volunteering and mentoring

**Access and Inclusion:**

- Admission arrangements
- Evaluating progress/attainment of different groups
- Bullying, discrimination, racial incidents and behaviour monitoring
- Learning behaviours

**Student Voice:**

- School Council
- Pupil surveys and interviews
- Pupils becoming active citizens in the local community
- Rights Respecting School Ambassadors

**Teacher Frameworks:**

- Home/school agreement
- Extended schools and services
- Healthy schools
- Sustainable schools
- Eco schools
- Rights Respecting Schools
- Anti-Bullying Community Award

**Special Events:**

- Whole school curriculum weeks
- Visits to places of Worship
- Anti-Bullying Week
- Unicef Day for Change
- Fundraising days/events (e.g Comic Relief, Harvest Assembly)

**2. Equity and Excellence**

We strive to ensure that all pupils achieve their potential, irrespective of ethnic, socio-economic or other differences. We are committed to narrowing, and ultimately closing, the gap between the progress and attainment of children from different backgrounds and their peers.

**3. Engagement**

School to school

We benefit from a range of partnerships developed through our membership of The Mead Educational Trust to offer pupils the opportunity to meet and learn from and with other young people from different backgrounds.

School to parents and the community

Current good partnership activities with parents and the local and wider community include:

- Regular parents' evenings and curriculum workshops
- Open door policy for parents in the mornings
- Community events and fayres
- Bringing community representatives into school to work with the pupils or to support learning by leading assemblies
- Strong links and multi-agency working between the school and other local agencies, such as the police, different religious groups and health professionals
- Promotion of extended services within our school

Extended services:

Our school provides core offers of extended services. We provide a free daily breakfast club and a variety of after school clubs from Monday to Thursday.