



Robert Clack School

Equal Opportunities in Education Policy (1)

Rationale

The school believes that sexism is incompatible with good educational practice and that a commitment to anti-sexism is a fundamental legal and professional duty.

The curriculum should provide equal opportunity for pupils to have access to a broad range of learning opportunities irrespective of whether they are girls or boys. The issue of sexism at institutional level should be considered openly and every effort made to counter it.

The issue of equal opportunities should be addressed by all staff, governors and administrators and brought into the mainstream of thinking about both organisational and curriculum matters.

Purposes

- To eradicate processes of stereotyping in order to ensure that all have the opportunity to reach their full potential.
- To ensure the implementation of anti-sexism policy at all school levels.
- To encourage pupils and staff to consider openly the issue of sexism at both individual and school level and make every effort to counter it.

Guidelines

- There should be an agreed Code of Practice throughout the school for dealing with sexist attitudes and behaviours.
- The school must examine carefully all books and teaching materials to ensure that those portraying stereotyped roles of the sexes are not used or are used in a critical way.
- Teachers must ensure that they do not direct a disproportionate amount of attention to boys in a mixed classroom, at the expense of girls.
- The school should attempt to remove the sexual inequalities which exist in the distribution of teaching staff by seniority and across the subjects. The school needs to consider the effect of this distribution in providing role models for pupils.
- Teachers' expectations should not be influenced by the sex of the pupil.