

Holy Trinity Church of England Junior School

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Headteacher: Mrs S Gruffydd



Dear Parents,

6th November 2019

Re. education re. equalities

As you know, we have duties to educate the children about a range of issues, including equalities, under the Equality Act of 2010. We do this sensitively and in an age appropriate way.

As we know, down through history there has been inappropriate use of words denoting race or disability in order to mock, tease or insult others. Thankfully, over time, this has been recognised as totally unacceptable. The same must be applied to any words used inappropriately to describe any protected characteristics as defined in our equality policy. Our equality policy sets out how we at Holy Trinity C of E Junior School intend to promote equalities, foster good relations and protect our pupils, families, staff and visitors against unfair treatment due to race, gender, disability and a number of other 'protected characteristics, including sexual orientation'. (The Equality policy is on our website).

Commented [D1]: "characteristics" including sexual orientation"

In PSHE: Personal, Social, and Health Education, we address all the aspects of equality, from Year 3 to Year 6. All of the aspects of equality may also be mentioned in assembly, through anti-bullying reminders, etc. This includes the words gay, lesbian and transgender.

It has also become apparent to us that the word gay is being used inappropriately in the playground from time to time, in a variety of circumstances. Such examples are; if someone kicks the ball over the fence by accident, or to use as a 'put down' when a game does not go well. This is not a new issue, but we are reminding parents that we will be talking about such things in school so that children are clear.

In accordance with our anti-bullying policy, if any child uses any words inappropriately we will deal with the vocabulary at an age appropriate level in school. Part of this may include educating the child as to what the word means (starting by asking them what they think it means) and how it has been used inappropriately. If a child chooses to continue to use language inappropriately after the meaning has been made clear, then this may be dealt with as bullying.

Parents now have the opportunity to deal with these matters at home first, should they choose to.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S Gruffydd
Headteacher



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