

COMMUNITY COHESION



VANTAGE ACADEMY TRUST

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INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Community cohesion is about creating a fully inclusive environment where all within it are treated with dignity and mutual respect, and to promoting positive understandings and acceptance of each other's way of life.
- 1.2 It aims to work 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 are 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 schools and the wider community.
- 1.3 It enables all within a community to think thoughtfully and reflectively on who they are, where they belong and how special and unique they are.
- 1.4 At Vantage Multi Academy Trust (Herein the 'Trust'), community cohesion means helping our children learn from different layers of community; school, local, UK and global, so that they all fulfil their potential with no barriers to their learning and benefit from positive relationships and feel part of the community.
- 1.5 Outlined below is how we, at the Trust, embrace the community cohesion agenda in many different ways. We believe one of our duties is to address the issues of 'how we live together' and 'dealing with difference' however controversial and difficult they might sometimes seem.

THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

- 2.1 Encouraging a feeling of inclusion and belonging in our schools for the pupils, their families and staff. Helping each other, developing our potential friendships and valuing relationships with one another.
- 2.2 Supporting the learning of; common values, understanding and empathy, rights of individuals. And to develop skills in teamwork, participation and responsible actions.
- 2.3 To have effective procedures within the school to tackle prejudice, bullying and harassment to ensure similar life opportunities to all.

THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

- 3.1 We all have a responsibility to build partnerships with our local community especially by:
 - Enriching our curriculum through visits and visitors.

- Leading and supporting community events.
- Utilising our buildings and resources for the benefit of the local community.
- Developing links with other local schools to enrich the learning for all involved.

THE COMMUNITY OF GREAT BRITAIN

- 4.1 Developing meaningful links with schools in other parts of the UK.
- 4.2 Enabling our children through the taught curriculum, to build their knowledge and understanding of the diversity of life in the UK, even if they are not exposed to these differences in their day to day life.
- 4.3 Using resources (especially books, CDs the internet, DVDs and display material) which enrich children's understanding of diversity in the UK.

THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY

- 5.1 Enabling children to learn about and from different countries and cultures.
- 5.2 Developing links and teacher exchange visits with schools in other countries.
- 5.3 Promoting effective learning about other countries and cultures through lively and stimulating resources.
- 5.4 At the Trust we fully support an inclusive approach to learning and take seriously the five learning dimensions of Every Child Matters, namely:
 - Being healthy
 - Staying safe
 - Enjoyment and achievement
 - Positive contributors
 - Economic well being