



Community Cohesion Policy 2018

(Accessibility and Equality)

Definition and coverage

By community cohesion, we mean working towards a society in which:

- There is a common vision and sense of belonging by all communities
- The diversity of people's backgrounds and circumstances is appreciated and valued
- Similar life opportunities are available to all
- Strong and positive relationships exist and continue to be developed in the workplace, in schools and in the wider community

Our school can contribute to community cohesion through:

- Promoting diversity and shared values in teaching, learning and curriculum
- Ensuring equity and excellence for all pupils
- Engagement and extended services to provide opportunities for people of different backgrounds to come together

(ref DfE)

The *Diversity and Citizenship Curriculum Review* published in February 2007 states that:

...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.

1. Community from a school's perspective

'Community' has a number of dimensions including the following:

*School community, Geographical community (within which the school is located),
British community, Global community*

Our school population is predominantly White British; as such we are mindful of promoting understanding and cohesion with the wider British multi-cultural society. We work hard to ensure that our students are made aware of other cultures and ethnic groups. We remain outward looking in raising our own awareness of developments in other communities that are not represented in Skelmersdale through schemes such as: International Schools Award.

2. Definition Of Accessibility (Equality Act 2010)

“A person has a disability if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day to day activities”

At West Lancashire Community High School we produce and review an accessibility plan (see appendix). This Accessibility Plan is compliant with current legislation and requirements as specified in Schedule 10, relating to Disability, of the Equality Act 2010.

Lancashire County Council has also produced an Equality Toolkit that can offer advice and support when introducing a new initiative into the school, to avoid inadvertently compromising the promotion of equality at our school. This is also attached as an appendix.

3. References for further information on Accessibility, Community Cohesion and Equality.

This policy and appendices are also linked to the following policies and documents:

- Risk assessment policy
- Health and safety policy
- Equality information and objectives (public sector equality duty) statement for publication
- Special educational needs (SEN) information report
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy
- [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Code of Practice,](#)

Reviewed Spring Term 2018

Next review Spring Term 2019