

BIRMINGHAM CURRICULUM STATEMENT

1. PREAMBLE

In Birmingham community cohesion means working towards a society in which strong and positive relationships flourish and continue to be developed in schools, the workplace and wider community. This is achieved through our shared values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, tolerance and mutual respect for people. The Equality Act 2010 places a duty on us to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and to foster good relations. To achieve this, every child in Birmingham should have the best opportunity to go as far as they can in life and education is the key to that success. This is our commitment to equip children and young people to be happy, talented, confident and ambitious citizens of Birmingham and of the world.

2. THE STATEMENT

A statement for our children in Birmingham: a guarantee for their future.

ALL children in Birmingham will experience a broad and balanced curriculum enabling them to grow and learn in an environment without prejudice or inequality. It will prepare them for adult life by:

- ✓ enabling them to play an active role in their school and community
- ✓ experiencing a culturally rich and diverse life
- ✓ developing and benefitting from a range of positive relationships

The curriculum will:

- ✓ promote children's engagement in learning through enquiry-led approaches that develop skills, dispositions and attitudes to learning
- ✓ equip children for their futures in a rapidly changing world recognising the importance of technology, science, languages and communication for dialogue and understanding between different groups
- ✓ value, celebrate and build on children's religious and cultural heritage and develop a sense of identity, honouring the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)
- ✓ promote the fundamental shared values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs
- ✓ help children develop an understanding of all faiths and none, and participate in the celebration of different religious events in understanding and accepting differences
- ✓ develop children holistically: their intellectual, practical, aesthetic, spiritual, social and emotional capacities

- ✓ ensure an understanding of protected characteristics of the Equality Act and how through diversity they can be celebrated
- ✓ develop children to take the lead, accepting responsibility for their behaviour, to show initiative and compassion for others, to make a positive difference in their own lives and in the lives of those living and working in their local, national and global communities

At school, all children and young people will be given the opportunity to learn the benefits of physically and emotionally healthy lifestyles, by participating in high quality personal, social and health education including sex and relationships education. Opportunities will be provided for children to explore their talents and abilities through:

- ✓ developing an appreciation of the arts
- ✓ taking part in a wide range of physical activities, sports and games
- ✓ developing a sense of self in a non-judgemental, mutually supportive environment
- ✓ experiencing music and its intrinsic value for enjoyment and self-expression through performing, singing and the playing of instruments
- ✓ experiencing social, moral, spiritual and cultural education that broadens children's awareness and understanding of the world and their place within it
- ✓ independent careers advice that inspires and motivates them to fulfil their potential

The UNCRC, Article 29 states that education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures and the environment. We will not allow any attempts to narrow the curriculum, or to deny our children and young people their right to education.

Signed



Councillor Jayne Francis
Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Culture



Councillor John Cotton
Cabinet Member for Social inclusion, Community Safety and Equalities

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