

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Phone:
Email: neetal.parekh@lancashire.gov.uk

Your ref:
Our ref: Equality and Diversity Team
Date: 3rd July 2023

Dear Colleague,

Lancashire Equality Mark –Socio-economic and Disability Equality Badges

Thank you for inviting me to have a look at the fantastic work that is going on in your school.

I felt that the evident inclusive culture in the school was exemplary. I was able to speak to the Headteacher, pupils, and school leadership team and passion for equalities and pride in the approach to equalities in school ran throughout all conversations. I was impressed with how everyone has been involved with Disability and Socio-economic Equality in your school, and how the interest and enthusiasm of all has had such a positive impact. It is evident that Equality is and continues to be a key focus for School and the School Community. I have therefore decided to award your school the Disability and Socio-economic Equality Badges.

I felt that your approach focusing on the children's interests, and needs was particularly strong. It was inspiring speaking with the children – in-particular Mohammed, who spoke with such pride about the support the school and the students give him every day. He spoke about how his school residential away involved various outdoor activities. However, all the activities were made accessible for his specific needs making him feel 'valued and included'. It was also great to learn that school has continued to nurture their relationship with Mohammed's parents breaking down any cultural or religious barriers.

I would also like to acknowledge that the school library and wall displays across the school and classrooms have representation of different groups and this allows students to empathise with those who are different from themselves. There is a proactive approach and commitment to celebrate equalities activities through the year and raises awareness across the school community. I was especially impressed with the new inclusion room in the school and the fantastic resources created to cater for individual learning needs of all the students. I look forward to seeing how the inclusion room evolves throughout the year.

Socio-economic equality is also clearly considered in all policies and a number of practices run in school to address identified barriers; For example, school uniform has also been considered and is affordable for families, regular food banks access, energy payment vouchers provided, growing and donating vegetables, Christmas food hampers for students and families and many other initiatives.

To further embed equality across whole school we would like to recommend the following actions:

- Ensure all areas of the school curriculum have established opportunities for representation of different groups (following the lead of English, History, Art, and other departments)
- Establish and further nurture the relationships with your communities and faith organisations as their values and visions match with the school.

A certificate is attached for you to display in school along with logos you may use on your letterhead and school website. If you would like us to come in to school to present your certificate, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully,

Neetal Parekh



Afrasiab Anwar
Community Team Leader



Roxana Sardais
EAL Team Leader