

Water Primary School

Happiness, Health & Opportunity

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

Dear parents and carers

Like many of you, I have been following events and demonstrations taking place across the world following the murder of George Floyd, and have spent a great deal of time considering the wider issues that they have raised for all of us. They have brought to the fore the issue of racism, which we must all face and address.

As a school, we are committed to being actively anti-racist. We have a clear and robust policy for discrimination of any kind. The notion that people, men, women and children can be judged on anything but their hard work, achievement and character is abhorrent to me and the staff of Water Primary School. Racism and prejudice is something that we must all strive to defeat, and recent events across the world should serve as a reminder of the urgency of this mission.

As teachers and school staff, we all want the very best for our children. We recognise that education is the most important tool in overcoming discrimination - fear and ignorance fuel racism, and we must work hard to ensure our children have the knowledge and skill to question racist views wherever they may encounter them. It is by helping children to understand the world that we will enable them to be the critical and creative thinkers that we so want them to become, and this has been central to the thinking behind our curriculum for a number of years.

We are absolutely committed to doing all we can to stamp out racism. But we know that we do not have all the answers. I recognise that we need to actively listen to our community about how to eradicate racism. In the coming weeks, I will be establishing a “working group” of staff, governors and parents which will be tasked with ensuring we understand the views of our community. This group will look at our curriculum, our response to racist incidents in school, and our messaging to our community, amongst other things.

We want to know how to get anti-racist education right, and want to make changes urgently to ensure that we are addressing racism head-on and with all the resources and ideas available. Please get in touch with me directly if you would like to contribute to this working group. We are a strong community - this period of closure has shown us that - and we must work together to tackle this issue.



Whilst talking about racism can feel uncomfortable, it is vital that we help our children to understand. If you are finding it difficult to talk with your children about racism and inequality, or if you or your children are struggling with the emotional impact of this topic, please do get in touch and we can offer support and advice.

Yours sincerely

Mr Willan
Headteacher