

PSHE and RSE- Protected Characteristics

PSHE and RSHE at Blackwell Primary School

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Protected Characteristics

The 2010 Equality Act makes it an offense to discriminate against a person due to their protected characteristic(s). At Blackwell Primary School, we teach all of the children what protected characteristics are and how they affect life. In KS1, we introduce the children to the 9 protected characteristics and in KS2 explore them in more detail. This is usually alongside the PSHE Matters curriculum, in Project Evolve lessons, No Outsiders assemblies, identified in class topics, texts used as part of topic drivers and increasingly in topic displays in class.



Age

A person belonging to a particular age (for example 32 year olds) or range of ages (for example 18 to 30 year olds).

Disability

A person has a disability if she or he has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on that person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

See our disability advice and guidance section.

Gender reassignment

The process of transitioning from one sex to another.

See our advice and guidance on gender reassignment discrimination.

Marriage and civil partnership

Marriage is a union between a man and a woman or between a same-sex couple.

Same-sex couples can also have their relationships legally recognised as 'civil partnerships'. Civil partners must not be treated less favourably than married couples (except where permitted by the Equality Act).

See our advice and guidance on marriage and civil partnership discrimination.

Pregnancy and maternity

Pregnancy is the condition of being pregnant or expecting a baby. Maternity refers to the period after the birth, and is linked to maternity leave in the employment context. In the non-work context, protection against maternity discrimination is for 26 weeks after giving birth, and this includes treating a woman unfavourably because she is breastfeeding.

Race

Refers to the protected characteristic of race. It refers to a group of people defined by their race, colour, and nationality (including citizenship) ethnic or national origins.

Religion and belief

Religion refers to any religion, including a lack of religion. Belief refers to any religious or philosophical belief and includes a lack of belief. Generally, a belief should affect your life choices or the way you live for it to be included in the definition.

Sex

A man or a woman.

Sexual orientation

Whether a person's sexual attraction is towards their own sex, the opposite sex or to both sexes.