

## Diversity at Stanah

Having a diverse group of pupils at Stanah simply means recognizing that all our pupils are unique in their own way. Their differences could consist of their reading level, athletic ability, cultural background, personality or religious beliefs, the list is endless. There has always been diversity in the classroom, but in today's society it is important to embrace it and make positive use of it. Teachers at Stanah value diversity and we model this attitude to our pupils.

What do we do to encourage, value, and promote diversity?

Teachers at Stanah provide pupils with an environment that is conducive to learning. If a pupil feels uncomfortable, unsafe, or not respected, then their chances of success in that class dramatically decrease. Also, as our society becomes more diverse, it is important that our pupils learn to value and use diversity to the greater good. Teachers already have a number of roles in the classroom; yet, valuing diversity is one of the most important ones a teacher must fill. Below is a list of just a few things that we do to create an environment where each pupil feels valued and respected.

We take the time to learn about pupils' background, interests, and learning style. This allows us to create an environment that is conducive to each individual pupil.

We allow time for our pupils to learn about each other and gain an appreciation for the diversity they bring to the classroom. We remind them how boring it would be if we were all alike and there were no differences among us to make each person unique. We teach our pupils that everyone has strengths and weaknesses. When working in teams we encourage pupils to take advantage of the strengths of the team members in order to produce the best possible results.

We bring in different people to the class as resources that our pupils might be able to connect with and working alongside the Lancashire Faith Centre we search out people that are different from ourselves and that might share certain qualities with our pupils. Children need role models. Many times when they see they are connected in some way to a person they will be more apt to listen and learn from them.

We never tolerate bullying, teasing, and other put-down behaviour at any time in the classroom. We implement a "zero tolerance" for anything that is disrespectful, hurtful, or intolerant of diversity.

During the first assembly of each half term a member of the leadership team delivers an assembly covering the topics below. Class teachers then follow this up during PSHE/Circle time. Each class has a display which celebrates diversity which is regularly updated.

#### Topics

Autumn: It's ok to be different

Spring: Different families

Summer: Gender stereotyping

Teachers plan their own assemblies covering all significant faith days, awareness events and other key dates.