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**Equal Opportunities / Inclusion Policy**

**Date – 12/06/2020**

**Written by – Gemma Sandercock**

**To be reviewed – 12/06/2021**

Here at Beech Tree Forest School we are committed to providing a fully inclusive setting for all and believes that all children have the right to have their individuality recognised and supported in order that they may reach their full potential. I will ensure that I actively promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practices for all children and adults within our sessions. I will make sure that they treat all children with equal concern and respect and that all children are included.

I will do this by:

● Being open and honest with parents / carers who are considering a place at Forest School so that they can make an informed decision about how we can best meet their child’s needs

● Acknowledging and valuing each child’s individuality

● Seeking information from parents / carers about family customs and beliefs, religion, home language, dietary needs and personal care

● Actively promoting British Values such as democracy, rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect for those with different beliefs to their own

● Enabling each child to feel good about him / herself by celebrating the differences which make us unique

● Enabling each child to have equal access to activities and experiences with due regard to their gender, age, race, religion, culture, disability or special educational need, social background or composition of the family

● Recognising that providing equal access may mean adapting an activity, providing additional resources or giving some children more support than others

● Always appropriately challenging inappropriate attitudes such as racist / sexist behaviour and language from both children and adults

● Encouraging children to take responsibility for their environment and to care for one another

● Promoting emotional literacy and supporting children to develop the skills needed to empathise with others.

● Recognising and welcoming all legislation and existing codes of practice and ensuring that knowledge is kept up to date