



Selborne Primary School

Conway Crescent, Perivale, Middlesex UB6 8JD

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✉ admin@selborne.ealing.sch.uk
🌐 www.selborne.ealing.sch.uk



Headteacher:
Mrs K.A. Shilling

Inspire & Achieve

Thursday 1st October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Selborne is an Anti-Racist School

We are fortunate that our school community is made up from pupils and families from all across the world. Parents choose to send their child to Selborne where they develop and grow in a multi-cultural environment, where we celebrate our differences and learn from each other. No one race within our school is better than another. With our school key of respect, Selborne pupils are expected to show respect to all others, both in school and outside of the school gates. We pride ourselves on educating pupils for this stage of their life and in preparation ready for the next stage of their education.

As an Anti-Racist school and working with Ealing Authority as part of its Race Equality commission, we do not want any racist behaviour at our school. Every term, I have to report to the school's Governing Board the number of racist incidents which the school staff have had to deal with. When necessary, the Governors analyse any patterns in school with particular year groups, ethnicities etc and discuss what more the school could do to ensure that it is clear that no racism will be tolerated. Most terms there are no incidents for me to report to Governors.

However, by the end of the Summer term 2026 there were several incidents of racist behaviour that had to be reported to the Governors. This is highly concerning and at the end of Summer term, the Headteacher met with our Race Equality Parental Forum (which has now run successfully for two school years) to try to work out how we can address this unacceptable situation.

In all the racist incidents dealt with in the summer term, the pupils were in Years 4, 5 or 6. A couple of incidents arose as pupils had heard language on 'YouTube' videos or in one racist incident, used by a parent at home, and then the children repeated this highly offensive language towards peers at school. We run a number of e-safety workshops for parents across the year and I must remind parents that primary school pupils are too young to be watching 'YouTube' without direct adult supervision. Please ensure that you do not let your child watch content on 'YouTube' without you being present throughout. Please also remember that as a parent/carer, you are a role model and children learn from the language/behaviour which they hear/see at home. We DO NOT want them repeating racist language at school that they have heard at home so please be highly aware of this. Unfortunately, there is currently a lot of unrest in the world but it is crucial that children are educated, by both home and school, about what is appropriate and respectful behaviour towards all others in our multi-cultural community.

A further incident the school had to deal with was racist behaviour online towards peers (whilst in the child's home). Parents must always be aware of what their child is doing online and must remember that many apps are for 13 years plus and some, like WhatsApp, are for 16 years plus. Primary school pupils should not be using these and parents **must** enforce this. Please also be aware of 'chat' functions on games consoles, such as Discord (which is for 18 years plus). It takes senior leaders considerable time in school to investigate racist incidents that happen off site and this takes away from the teaching of your child. More importantly, it causes a great deal of upset and hurt for both pupils and their parents; this could be avoided with greater adult supervision whilst your child is online at home. These incidents are undermining the inclusive values which our school seeks to uphold and need to stop.





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We want everyone in our school, no matter what race or religion, to feel like they belong, are safe, supported and are important members of our school community. The Parental Race Equality Forum and I tried to think of some actions which the school could take to make it explicitly clear to everyone in our community that racist behaviour at our school will NOT be tolerated and this letter is the first stage to make this clear to everyone. This letter has been sent to all pupils across our school, including new pupils who were not at Selborne in the Summer term 2026. We feel it is important that everybody in our school community understands our position and that we can work together moving forward to ensure our school is an anti-racist setting.

At the beginning of term, I will remind pupils and make it explicitly clear to them in assemblies what the consequences are if they choose to be racist towards others and this includes outside of school too. The school will not hesitate to get outside agencies and/or the Police involved, if applicable, if pupils are racist. The school already has a strict behaviour policy in place and a flowchart adopted from Ealing Council guidance which we follow when dealing with a racist incident. All Selborne teachers are trained with how to deal with and report a racist incident, and your child's classteacher is the first point of contact if you are concerned about anything. You do not need to wait for an appointment with the Headteacher. All our staff have received extensive anti-racism and unconscious bias training as racism is everyone's concern at our school. We also included a slide in the PowerPoint presentation delivered by the teachers at the September Parent Information sessions (held in school to inform you about your child's new school year) about racism so that all parents clearly understand that we are an anti-racist school and how you can help to promote this.

Just to be explicitly clear, we follow our school behaviour policy (which is on our school website) if we have to deal with a pupil being racist in our school. Ultimately, a pupil could be suspended from the school (for a fixed period of time) or excluded from Selborne (permanently taken off roll) in this policy for their behaviour. In this situation, parents would have to work with Ealing Council and our local Pupil Referral Unit to find another school/setting for their child. We have a zero-tolerance approach to racism; if you choose Selborne for your child then we expect your support with this.

We know that alongside you as parents, it is our role at school to educate pupils about racism. At the Parental Forum's request, the Governors have funded for pupils in Years 4, 5 and 6 to take part in some special anti-racism workshops in school, which will be delivered from an external specialist agency later in the Autumn term. The message will be that there is no place in Selborne's community for racism of any kind and pupils will be explicitly taught what qualifies as racist behaviour, language and attitude. All pupils in the school, including Reception and our ARP pupils, learn in an age-appropriate way about racism in our PSHE lessons. We will again mark 'Wear Red Day' on Friday 16th October. Wear Red Day is an annual national day of action organised by the anti-racism educational charity, Show Racism the Red Card, to show solidarity against racism. Our Parental Race Equality Forum are also keen for parents to work alongside their children on an anti-racism project and further details will follow.

The Race Equality Parental Forum would love new members to join them. Nearer to Christmas, they will be holding a coffee morning and they hope to meet more parents who can support the valuable work which they do for all the pupils at school (including organising our International Event). I will send details of this coffee morning once it has been arranged. Additionally, if you have any further ideas of how we can





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promote our anti-racist intentions further then the Parental Forum and I would welcome your ideas. Please contact the school through the usual school admin email address. This is an important priority for us.

This letter reminds parents and carers about our school's commitment to equality, inclusion and our zero tolerance towards racism. I remain optimistic that we can all work together to prevent further incidents which deeply hurt and upset both pupils and families. We have had a really positive September back in school and I look forward to reporting back to you that we managed the whole of the Autumn term without any incidents of racist behaviour and that all pupils feel respected at Selborne regardless of their race, ethnicity or background.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

K. Shilling

Mrs. Shilling
Headteacher

