

REVISION OF THE EDUCATION POLICY AND GUIDELINES "DEALING WITH RACIAL HARASSMENT" - A GUIDE FOR SCHOOLS

Amendment to Sections 2.2 and 4.1

Since the paper was submitted to Cabinet on 18 September 2000, the survey to schools on numbers of incidents of racial harassment was completed. This puts the final total at 445 rather than 356.

Results of Consultation – sections 5.2 and 6

The results of consultation have now been received and section 6 below now replaces section 6 in the original report to Cabinet.

6. Outcomes from Consultation

Consultation was completed during September 2000.

Minority ethnic community groups consulted supported the proposed changes to the guidelines and made the following main points: -

- That all schools should adopt policies and procedures which seek to prevent racism and to deal effectively with incidents should occur.
- The importance of support for minority ethnic parents and young people.
- That the guidelines and schools should adopt the definition of racial harassment from the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry report and that the guidelines should refer to the role of institutional racism.
- That schools should use their monitoring data to review their policies and procedures and to inform their prevention strategies.
- That the Authority should aim to publish examples of good practice.
- The importance of sharing casework with other agencies.

Schools have been positive about the guidelines and support from the LEA. They wish to see continuation of such support and in particular for the implementation of the new guidelines.

In the consultation with representatives from the Headteacher forums and associations the following points were made:

- The importance of integrating policy and procedures for dealing with racial harassment into whole school behaviour policies was stressed.
- That the LEA should develop reporting systems in a way that minimises bureaucracy while maintaining proper and purposeful monitoring.
- That prevention strategies be linked to the development of the citizenship and personal and social education curriculum.