

## **The Nelson Thomlinson School Equal Opportunities Policy**

It is at the heart of The Nelson Thomlinson School's vision of itself as a school to hold that students' rights stem from their status as individual human beings, and from nowhere else.

We usually express this in some of our in-house catch phrases: "Would it do for your child?" to "compel learning" by each student; to enable each child to come to an appropriately respectful and ambitious "self-definition". These are not casual phrases, but touchstones to which we return to measure our actions.

In consequence, we do look at achievement by gender and by ability in order to better serve individual needs. Teachers have a professional responsibility to value and encourage the achievement of all pupils equally. We would take action against any teacher who may value boys' rather than girls' achievements in exactly the same way as we would take action against any teacher who was not marking books. However, we acknowledge that as providers of education we have an essential role to play in ensuring that boys and girls have fair access to all areas of the curriculum.

Reviewed by the Pastoral Committee 4<sup>th</sup> October 2012

Review every 2 years or earlier if required.

Next review due: October 2014