The Protected Characteristics

> *'No matter what type of school they attend, it is important that all children gain an understanding of the world they are growing up in, and learn how to live alongside, and show respect for, a diverse range of people. When we inspect schools, we assess how well they equip children to do this.'*
>
> (https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/inspecting-teaching-of-the-protected-characteristics-in-schools/inspecting-teaching-of-the-protected-characteristics-in-schools)

Language Angels will endeavour to support all primary schools in the personal development of their pupils, so as to ensure a whole school approach to the protected characteristics. It is important to ensure all primary pupils understand that everyone is different and that all differences and similarities are celebrated. All pupils should feel they belong and are valued within their school community, with equality and diversity promoted through the protected characteristics.

Various units and materials support teaching of the protected characteristics when and where it is age-appropriate to do so, aligning with school requirements and expectations. As all schools must respect the religious backgrounds and beliefs of their school community, we have no dedicated teaching units for this as these should be explicitly taught in other areas of the curriculum where there is specific subject guidance.

There are ample opportunities within the Language Angels platform to support a whole school approach to the deeper understanding of the diverse and multi-cultural world pupils are growing up in, as well as a world free of discrimination. There are many positive, age-appropriate references to the wider world, other countries, languages, beliefs, religions, traditions and celebrations throughout the teaching resources.

The main protected characteristics are:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sex

Age

Pupils will see a variety of ages represented positively throughout our resources. For instance, pupils will learn how to say their age and when their birthday is. Main units for this are '*Presenting Myself'* and '*The Date'* found in the Intermediate teaching type.

Disability

Pupils will see a variety of disabilities positively represented in our resources. For instance, the main character of the Intermediate unit '*My Family'* has a significant physical disability.

Gender reassignment

The process of transitioning from one gender to another is not represented explicitly in our resources but pupils will see many gender-neutral characters represented throughout our resources.

Marriage and civil partnership

Pupils will see a variety of different types of families represented positively in our resources, including same sex partnerships in the '*My Family'* Intermediate unit.

Pregnancy and maternity

Pupils will see a representation of pregnancy in our resources, for example in the '*My Family*' Intermediate unit.

Race

Pupils will see a variety of ethnic minorities represented positively throughout our resources. This is shown most explicitly in '*Presenting Myself*' (Intermediate unit) and in '*Me in the World*' *(*Progressive unit*)*.

Religion or belief

Pupils will see a variety of religions and beliefs represented positively in our resources. This is seen most explicitly in the '*Me in the World*' (Progressive unit) where characters from around the globe celebrate their faith, religious celebrations and traditions.

Sex

There will be no reference to sex and sex education in our resources but pupils will see many gender-neutral characters represented.