(Assume parent sending email)

Dear Head teacher of [School name],

I/We (am/are) writing to introduce ourselves and ask for your support.

My/Our child, [Child’s name], is vegan, and is at risk of becoming a target of bullying and other discriminatory behaviours.

You may or may not know, veganism is a protected philosophy and way of living which seeks to exclude – as far as is possible and practicable – all forms of exploitation of, and cruelty to, animals for food, clothing or any other purpose.

This protection under the [Equality Act 2010](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/equality-act-2010-guidance) means that schools and staff have an obligation to ensure that they create positive and safe conditions for vegan learners and (I/we) would like to ensure this for (my/our) child.

**Discrimination**

According to a recent survey by *[Vegan Inclusive Education](https://vieducation.co.uk/)*, 73% of vegan pupils are teased for their beliefs, 42% of which have experienced explicit bullying, sometimes including physical harm.

If schools don’t recognise that veganism is a belief susceptible to stigma-based bullying, they are likely to be slower to respond, and with less than 40% of vegan children feeling safe in school, developing an understanding of this prejudice, and putting adequate safeguarding procedures in place, is paramount.

**Positive Peer Relationships**

I’m sure you will agree that these figures are not acceptable. It may be prudent, therefore, to put adequate procedures in place to safeguard vegan learners and foster positive peer relationships.

One suggestion could be to discuss what veganism is with your learners to reduce stigma.

**Resources**

Another suggestion is teaching and facilitating learning about where food comes from and why people choose not to consume certain foods for ethical reasons, which are suggested topics for learning, outlined by the [*Food teaching in primary schools: A framework of knowledge and skills*](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/477935/Foodteaching_Primaryguidelines_FINAL_.pdf) document(Public Health England, p.10).

The Vegan Society can provide your school with information and guidance on rights and equality measures.

A concise guide for educators on how to provide a vegan-inclusive education can be found [here](https://www.vegansociety.com/sites/default/files/uploads/downloads/TVS_Education%20Booklet_A5_DIGITAL.pdf).

I/We have not made this request lightly, as I/we know how hard you work and how far in advance you must plan your termly work and activities. For more information you can request free CPD training on vegan inclusion from The Vegan Society or visit The Vegan Society’s [Education](https://www.vegansociety.com/lifestyle/vegan-inclusive-education) page.

Thank you for reading this letter. I/We would be more than happy to work in partnership with you on any issues raised because of my/our request.

Yours sincerely,

[Sender name]