



Equality Information and Objectives

This is a Trust Statement - information and objectives specific to individual academies and their procedures are added by the academy in *Appendix 2 and Appendix 3*. (For a copy of the academy specific information and objectives – see the individual academy website).

Date	Revision & Amendment Details	By Whom
September 2019	Approved	Executive
September 2023	Review and updated	Executive

Review / Updates

Education Committee

- Update equality information (described in sections 4 – 7) annually
- Review the whole document every four years

Academies

- Update academy specific equality information (described in Appendix 2) annually
- Review and update objectives every four years

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1. Aims

Peterborough Diocese Education Trust (the Trust) aims to meet its obligations under the Public Sector Equality Duty by having due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination and other conduct that is prohibited by the Equality Act 2010
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it (for details of protected characteristics - see [Appendix 1](#))
- Foster good relations across all characteristics – between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

2. Legislation and Guidance

This document meets the requirements under the following legislation:

- [The Equality Act 2010](#), which introduced the Public Sector Equality Duty and protects people from discrimination
- [The Equality Act 2010 \(Specific Duties\) Regulations 2011](#), which **require schools / academies to publish information to demonstrate how they are complying with the Public Sector Equality Duty and to publish equality objectives.**

This document is also based on the [Department for Education \(DfE\) advice for schools on the Equality Act](#), the [technical guidance for schools from the Equality and Human Rights Commission](#) and [guidance from the Government Equalities Office on meeting the specific duties that support the Public Sector Equality Duty](#).

This document also complies with the Trust’s funding agreement and articles of association.

3. Roles and responsibilities

3.1 The Board of Directors will:

- Ensure that the equality information as set out in this statement is published and communicated throughout the Trust, including to governors, staff, pupils and parents / carers
- Ensure that the published equality information is updated at least every year, and that the objectives are reviewed and updated at least every four years
- Delegate responsibility for monitoring the achievement of the objectives in each academy on a daily basis to the headteacher / head of school and delegate responsibility for monitoring progress of the objectives to the Academy Governance Committee (AGC).

3.2 The Academy Governance Committee (AGC) will:

- Meet regularly with the Headteacher / Head of School or designated member of staff for equality and other relevant staff members to discuss any issues and how these are being addressed
- Ensure they are familiar with all relevant legislation and the contents of this document
- Monitor progress of the academy’s Equality Objectives as set out in [Appendix 3](#)
- Attend appropriate equality and diversity training
- Report back to the Board of Directors through the Central Executive Team regarding any issues.

3.3 The headteacher / head of school will:

- Monitor the achievement of the objectives on a daily basis
- Promote knowledge and understanding of the equality objectives among staff and pupils
- monitor success in achieving the objectives and report back to governors.

If an academy has a designated member of staff for equality, they will:

- Support the Headteacher / Head of School in promoting knowledge and understanding of the equality objectives amongst staff and pupils
- Meet with the governors on a regular basis to raise and discuss any issues
- Support the Headteacher / Head of School in identifying any staff training needs, and deliver training as necessary.

3.3 All staff

All academy staff are expected to have regard to this document and to work to achieve the objectives referred to in section 8 and set out in [Appendix 3](#).

4. Eliminating Discrimination

The Trust is committed to eliminating discrimination and is aware of its obligations under the Equality Act 2010 and complies with non-discrimination provisions.

Where relevant, Trust policies include reference to the importance of avoiding discrimination and other prohibited conduct.

Directors, governors and all staff are regularly reminded of their responsibilities under the Equality Act, for example during meetings. Where this has been discussed during a meeting it is recorded in the meeting minutes.

How individual academies specifically work to eliminate discrimination is set out in [Appendix 2](#).

5. Advancing Equality of Opportunity

As set out in the DfE guidance on the Equality Act, the Trust aims to advance equality of opportunity by:

- Removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by people which are connected by a particular characteristic they have (e.g. pupils / staff with disabilities, or gay pupils who are being subjected to homophobic bullying)
- Taking steps to meet the particular needs of people who have a particular characteristic.

Academy specific details as to how they will advance equality of opportunity can be found in [Appendix 2](#).

6. Fostering Good Relations

The Trust aims to foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not share it by:

- Promoting tolerance and friendship and understanding of a range of religions and cultures through different aspects of the curriculum. This includes teaching in RE, citizenship and personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education, but also activities in other curriculum areas. For example, as part of teaching and learning in English / reading, pupils will be introduced to literature from a range of cultures
- Working with communities.

For academy specific details in relation to how they foster good relations – [see Appendix 2](#).

7. Equality Considerations in Decision-Making

The Trust and its academies ensure they have due regard to equality considerations whenever significant decisions are made.

For details of how individual academies consider the impact of significant decisions on particular groups – [see Appendix 2](#).

8. Equality Objectives

The Trust expects each academy to set their own objectives depending on their circumstances and context, whilst keeping in-line with the Trust’s overall approach to equality set out in this Policy.

Individual academies Equality Objectives are set out in [Appendix 3](#).

9. Monitoring Arrangements

The Board of Directors, acting through the Education Committee, will update the equality information it publishes, described in sections 4 to 7 above, at least every year and this whole document will be reviewed by them at least every 4 years.

The Headteacher / Head of School will, in partnership with their AGC:

- Update the equality information the academy publishes, described in [Appendix 2](#), at least every year; and
- Review and agree the academy-specific equality objectives in [Appendix 3](#) every four years.

10. Links with Other Policies

This document links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- SEND.

Appendix 1

The Protected Characteristics as set out in [The Equality Act 2010](#) are:

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

Appendix 2

Equality Information - Academy Specific

Name of academy: Great Addington CE Primary Academy

Eliminating Discrimination in Our Academy

We work to eliminate discrimination in the following ways:

- Staff and governors are regularly reminded of their responsibilities under the Equality Act, [for example during staff meetings and Academy Governor Council meetings, where these discussions are minuted.]
- New staff receive training on the Equality Act as part of their induction, and all staff receive refresher training every September and 2 training days during the academic year, *including information about protected characteristics and the ways in which our academy promote the Equality Act.*
- The academy has a designated member of staff for monitoring equality issues. They regularly liaise with the governors regarding any issues and make them and senior leaders aware of these as appropriate.

Advancing Equality of Opportunity

As set out in the DfE guidance on the Equality Act, we aim to advance equality of opportunity by:

- Removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by people which are connected by a particular characteristic they have (e.g. pupils with disabilities, or gay pupils who are being subjected to homophobic bullying)
- Taking steps to meet the particular needs of people who have a particular characteristic [e.g. enabling Muslim pupils to pray at prescribed times]
- Encouraging people who have a particular characteristic to participate fully in any activities (e.g. encouraging all pupils to be involved in the full range of academy clubs).

Fostering Good Relations

We aim to foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not share it by:

- Promoting tolerance, friendship and understanding of a range of religions and cultures through different aspects of the curriculum. This includes teaching in RE, citizenship and personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education, but also activities in other curriculum areas. For example, as part of teaching and learning in English / reading, pupils will be introduced to literature from a range of cultures.
- Holding collective worship dealing with relevant issues. Pupils will be encouraged to take a lead in such collective worship and external speakers will also be invited to contribute.
- Working with our local community.

[An example of how we work with our local community is inviting leaders of local faith groups to speak at collective worship, and organising academy trips and activities based around the local community;]

- encouraging and implementing initiatives to deal with tensions between different groups of pupils within the academy. For example our academy council has representatives from different year groups and is formed of pupils from a range of backgrounds. All pupils are encouraged to participate in the academy's activities, such as sports clubs. We also work with parents / carers to promote knowledge and understanding of different cultures.
- developing links with people and groups who have specialist knowledge about particular characteristics, which helps inform and develop our approach.

Equality Considerations in Decision-Making

We will always consider the impact of significant decisions on particular groups.

[For example, when an academy trip or activity is being planned, the academy considers whether the trip:

- Cuts across any religious holidays
- Is accessible to pupils with disabilities
- Has equivalent facilities for all pupils regardless of gender.

We keep a written record (known as an Equality Impact Assessment) to show we have actively considered our equality duties and asked ourselves relevant questions. This is recorded at the same time as the risk assessment when planning academy trips and activities. The record is completed by the member of staff organising the activity and is stored electronically with the completed risk assessment.

Reviewed by the Headteacher / Head of School: when trip information is uploaded to Plumsun for approval.

Appendix 3

Great Addington CE Primary Academy Equality Objectives

Objective 1: *To ensure the academy promotes equal opportunities and access for all by creating and implementing an Equality Impact Assessment system to record all academy events, trip and activities that demonstrate the academy has taken into account protected characteristics of all participants.*

Why have we chosen this objective:

To ensure all staff understand protected characteristics and these are taken into consideration when planning, organising and implementing academy activities, visits and events to ensure equal access and non-discrimination for all.

To achieve this we plan to:

- Create an Equality Impact Assessment proforma.
- Staff training on Equal Opportunities and protected characteristics.
- Staff CPD on utilising Equality Impact Assessments.
- Implement use of Equality Impact Assessments by staff when planning academy events, activities and visits.
- To collate a record of Equality Impact Assessments.
- AGC to monitor use of Equality Impact Assessments.

Progress we are making towards achieving this objective:

Objective 2: *To provide increased opportunities within the teaching and curriculum to reflect the religious and cultural background of Modern Britain, including British values and diversity.*

Why have we chosen this objective:

To broaden our pupils understanding of the multicultural and diverse society they live in as our Academy community come from a predominantly white British background.

To achieve this we plan to:

- Audit current curriculum plans by July 2025.
- Ensure new curriculum plans include opportunities for pupils to broaden understanding of modern Britain.

- Audit current text and resources by July 2025.
- Purchase additional books and resources as needed by July 2025
- Audit current visitor/ trip opportunities by July 2025.
- Identify calendar of events throughout the year by September 2024/ 2025.
- Seek views from the school community as to how this can be strengthened further.
- Build links with a range of visitors or places to visit to provide opportunities to enable pupils to broaden their understanding of the multicultural society within which they live.

Progress we are making towards achieving this objective:

Objective 3: *To actively close gaps in attainment and achievement between pupils and all groups of pupils; especially students eligible for free-school meals, students with special educational needs and disabilities and looked after children.*

Why have we chosen this objective:

To ensure all pupils regardless of pupil characteristics can achieve their full potential and make good progress from their differing starting points while attending Great Addington CE Primary Academy.

To achieve this we plan to:

- Ensure there is a robust tracking system to monitor pupil progress of all pupil groups.
- Regularly review and evaluate pupil progress of all pupil groups.
- Address underachievement of specific pupil groups through developing quality first teach.
- Implement identified interventions to address specific gaps in learning.
- Implement a robust plan, do, assess and review cycle.
- Commission appropriate professionals to support the Academy in the identification of need and provision for individual pupils.

Progress we are making towards achieving this objective:

Reviewed by the Headteacher / Head of School: July 2024