



**THIS POLICY COVERS ALL ACADEMIES/SCHOOLS WITHIN
ARDEN MULTI ACADEMY TRUST**

Name of Policy	Equality Information & Objectives Policy	
Lead	Martin Murphy, CEO/ L Suddon & M Allsopp	
Governor Committee	Business & Personnel Committee	
Policy Status	Draft (based on Forbes Solicitors Model Policy)	March 2020
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Reviewed	Autumn Term 2021 (agreed by Gov at Housekeeping Sept 21)	



1. Aims

Our schools/academies aim to meet their 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

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 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 Department for Education (DfE) guidance: [The Equality Act 2010 and schools](#).

This document also complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

3. Roles and responsibilities

The Local Governing Board of each Trust school academy will:

Ensure that the equality information and objectives as set out in this statement are published and communicated throughout the school, including to staff, pupils and parents, and that they are reviewed and updated at least once every four years

Delegate responsibility for monitoring the achievement of the objectives on a daily basis to the headteacher

The LGB will appoint an equality link governor (a member of the BSII sub-committee) who will:

Meet with the designated member of staff for equality every term and other relevant staff members, to discuss any issues and how these are being addressed

Ensure they're familiar with all relevant legislation and the contents of this document Attend appropriate equality and diversity training

Report back to the full governing board regarding any issues

The headteacher will:

Promote knowledge and understanding of the equality objectives amongst staff and pupils

Monitor success in achieving the objectives and report back to governors.

The designated member of staff for equality will:

Support the headteacher in promoting knowledge and understanding of the equality objectives amongst staff and pupils

Meet with the equality link governor every term to raise and discuss any issues

Support the headteacher in identifying any staff training needs, and deliver training as necessary

All school staff are expected to have regard to this document and to work to achieve the objectives as set out in section 8.

4. Eliminating discrimination

The Trust schools/academies are aware of their obligations under the Equality Act 2010 and comply with non-discrimination provisions.

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

Staff, trustees and governors 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.

New staff receive training on the Equality Act as part of their induction, and all staff receive refresher training at the start of every new academic year.

The schools/academies have a designated member of staff for monitoring equality issues, and an equality link governor. They regularly liaise regarding any issues and make senior leaders and governors aware of these as appropriate.

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 to 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 school societies)

In fulfilling this aspect of the duty, the Trust schools/academies will:

Publish attainment data each academic year showing how pupils with different characteristics are performing

Analyse the above data to determine strengths and areas for improvement, implement actions in response and publish this information

Make evidence available identifying improvements for specific groups (e.g., declines in incidents of homophobic or transphobic bullying)

Publish further data about any issues associated with particular protected characteristics, identifying any issues which could affect our own pupils

6. Fostering good relations

The Trust schools/academies 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 our 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 assemblies dealing with relevant issues. Pupils will be encouraged to take a lead in such assemblies, and we will also invite external speakers to contribute

Working with our local community. This includes inviting leaders of local faith groups to speak at assemblies, and organising school trips and activities based around the local community

Encouraging and implementing initiatives to deal with tensions between different groups of pupils within the school. For example, our school 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 school's activities, such as sports clubs. We also work with parents to promote knowledge and understanding of different cultures

We have developed links with people and groups who have specialist knowledge about particular characteristics, which helps inform and develop our approach

7. Equality considerations in decision-making

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

The Trust schools/academies always consider the impact of significant decisions on particular groups. For example, when a school trip or activity is being planned, the school considers whether the trip:

Cuts across any religious holidays

Is accessible to pupils with disabilities

Has equivalent facilities for boys and girls

8. Equality objectives (for consideration by each School) Arden Multi-Academy Trust

Equality Objectives 2021 - 2023

1. To promote spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and understanding through all appropriate curricular opportunities, with particular reference to issues of equality and diversity.
2. To promote cultural understanding between different ethnic groups within our school community.
3. To increase the extent to which pupils, including in particular those with protected characteristics, and children who may be affected by discrimination and lack of equal opportunity as defined by the Equality Act, feel valued and confident, and in consequence are more likely to achieve their potential and make good progress
4. To increase staff's understanding of equality and its implications on a day-to-day basis, and in this way help to reduce and remove inequalities in attainment throughout the school, particularly inequalities relating to the protected characteristics listed in the Equality Act
5. To narrow the gap for pupils between in particular between those with and without protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act and between low income and non-low-income pupils
6. To employ a diverse workforce representative of our community.

To achieve these objectives, we will:

- exploit opportunities to celebrate diversity and promote equality within our school community
- consult with stakeholders from all protected characteristics and others to identify aspects of diversity and equality which are of most importance to them and use this to inform our work.
- regularly review and evaluate our work to ensure that this is the case.
- positively discriminate to ensure stakeholders from all protected characteristics are appropriately represented in aspects such as the school council, rewards, staffing etc.
- communicate with stakeholders on our work in this area and share next steps.
- train staff to actively promote equality and diversity and actively tackle discrimination and inequality

9. Monitoring arrangements

The Associate Headteacher will update the Local Governing Board, at least every year on our progress towards our objectives.

This document will be reviewed by Trust Board, the Associate Headteacher and the Local Governing Board at least every 4 years.

This document will be approved by the Trust board (policy) and the Local Governing Board (objectives).