

# Waddington All Saints Equality Information and Objectives

#### **Policy Information**

Document name	Equality Information and Objectives – Public Sector Equality Duty
Date approved	March 2025
Date issued	February 2025 - update
Date of review	January 2026

### **Aims**

Our academy aims to meet its obligations under the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) 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

## Legislation and guidance

This document meets the requirements under the following legislation:

- <u>The Equality Act 2010</u>, which introduced the Public Sector Equality Duty and protects people from discrimination
- The Equality Act 2010, with amendments, due to the Worker Protection Act 2024
- 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: <u>The Equality Act 2010 and schools</u>, and complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

## **Roles and responsibilities**

#### The Role of Trustees

Trustees are responsible for ensuring that the Trust and its academies comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty and adopt the overarching Trust Equalities Policy. Through the Scheme of Delegation, the Trust Board assigns local adaptation of the policy for each academy.

#### The role of Academy Governing Bodies

Academy Governing Bodies (AGBs) are the "responsible body" for ensuring that the academy meets the requirements of equality legislation. Essentially this means they should:

- Ensure the academy takes all reasonable steps to ensure that its employees do not carry out unlawful discriminatory actions or behaviour.
- Support and guide the academy to have "due regard" for equality in all its functions.
- Ensure the academy complies with the Equality Duty and meets the two "specific duties" for academies.

- Ensure that the equality information and objectives as set out in this statement are published and communicated throughout the academy, including to staff, pupils and parents
- Ensure that the published equality information is updated at least every year, and that the
  objectives are reviewed and updated at least every 4 years
- Delegate responsibility for monitoring the achievement of the objectives on to the Headteacher.

The equality link governor is Hannah Berry. They 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 Role of the Headteacher

- Ensure that the L.E.A.D. Academy Trust policy is adopted and implemented
- Promote knowledge and understanding of the equality objectives among 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 among 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 academy staff are expected to have regard to this document and to work to achieve the objectives.

## **Eliminating discrimination**

The academy is aware of its obligations under the Equality Act 2010 and complies with non-discrimination provisions.

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

Staff 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 every year.

The academy has 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.

# Advancing equality of opportunity

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

- Removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by people that 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 academy societies)

In fulfilling this aspect of the duty, the academy will:

- Publish attainment data each academic year
- 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

## Fostering good relations

The academy aims 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 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 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**

The academy ensures it has due regard to equality considerations whenever significant decisions are made.

The academy always considers 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 boys and girls

The academy keeps 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.

# **Equality objectives**

The academy aims to set three objectives:

- One focused on pupil outcomes and relating to an issue/characteristic affecting a
  disproportionately large share of our pupils compared to the national average; this will
  help to ensure our academy is able to take action which will have an impact on a significant
  scale.
- One objective focused on outcomes and relating to an issue/characteristic significantly
  affecting a small share of pupils compared to the national average. Research nationally
  suggests some of the largest and most stubborn 'gaps' in outcomes are in academies with
  very small numbers of children with that particular characteristic such pupils should not
  be overlooked.
- One objective relating to actions with a wider scope/impact, perhaps in relation to curriculum content, enrichment activities, developing the 'whole child', whole school values and behaviours, work with parents/carers and the wider community or a workforce issue; this will ensure equality is not seen exclusively in relation to pupil outcome measures.

## Requirement to publish information annually:

The academy will publish an annual update on the website, starting in Spring 2025. This update will include:

 Pupil information: academy level data about the composition of the pupil population and their outcomes, in relation to gender, Special Educational Needs (SEN) and disability, race/ethnicity and those with English as an Additional Language (EAL), children who are/have been Looked After (CLA) and pupils who are eligible for Free School Meals (FSM), or who more broadly qualify for the Pupil Premium.

# Links with other policies

This document links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions
- Behaviour policy

#### **ACADEMY OBJECTIVES PLAN 2022- 2026**

Target	Actions	How will the impact of action be monitored?	Timeframe	Impact – annual review Review date:
To further embed provision for all pupils to mitigate the potential negative impact of mobility and deployment.	<ul> <li>Further develop deployment support within school – including clear systems and criteria for referral.</li> <li>Identify ELSA interventions and further resources to support.</li> <li>Military support worker to work with pupils to ensure that they have the support that they need.</li> <li>Identify gaps in learning quickly, to ensure pupils moving between education systems are not negatively impacted upon.</li> </ul>	Who is responsible Initial screening of gaps within learning identified. Targets and next steps set. (CT) Monitoring of progress of pupils termly, identifying trends and next steps (CT) Communication set up with parents (MSW) Reflections of meetings with pupil, parents and military support worker (MSW and CT).	Dec review 1 March review 2 June review 3	Intended Impact:  ✓ Gaps in learning of children moving between different education systems will be identified and addressed quickly.  ✓ Pupil's will 'catch up' at an accelerated rate.  ✓ Emotional support will be effective in enabling the pupils to manage aspects of deployment and mobility successfully.  Next steps (review date)
2. Ensure that 80% of PPG students make at least good progress, from their starting points, and in line with their peers, across the academy by 2026.	<ul> <li>Develop effective provision that meets the needs of PPG students.</li> <li>Implement accurate, time bound, bespoke provision for PPG pupils to reach agreed targets.</li> <li>Review PPG pupils work half termly to establish if needs are met/on track.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Key performance indicators reviewed termly (ZJ/MJ)</li> <li>Monitoring of progress of PPG pupils termly, identifying trends and next steps (CT)</li> </ul>	July 25 review 1 Nov 25 review 2 March 26 review 3	Intended Impact:  ✓ July 2026 – 80% of PPG pupils made good progress across the academy  Review:  Next steps (review date)

	<ul> <li>Ensure PPG is a regular agenda item for staff meetings.</li> <li>Review PPG funding to ensure that it is used to effectively support pupil progress.</li> <li>Regular communication with parents to support attendance, where this is a concern.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Monitor attendance in the academy of PPG pupils (MJ/CW)</li> <li>Reflection of attitudes to learning and engagement. (CT)</li> </ul>		
1. Ensure that minority ethnic and faith groups feel secure and valued in our community so that diversity is celebrated and understood through rich learning opportunities.	<ul> <li>Parent and child views survey.</li> <li>Analysis of our school community to ensure that they are well represented across the academic year.</li> <li>Clear plan for assemblies to ensure a strategic plan for the development of equality and diversity.</li> <li>Review of curriculum in relation to diversity-implementation of the DRIVE for excellence.</li> <li>Ensure that the reading spine encompasses a diverse range of authors and themes.</li> <li>Mastery days to celebrate diversity of gender, ethnicity and faith. Engagement opportunities with local places of worship through RE and collective worship.</li> <li>Review of displays to represent all ethnic and faith groups.</li> </ul>	Increasing engagement within the community – making links with local places of worship.  Increase in opportunities to celebrate diversity through the curriculum and noted in QA visits  Feedback from pupil voice and parent surveys.	July review 1 Nov review 2 March review 3	Intended Impact:  ✓ Pupils feel valued and that their ethnicity and faith are respected. ✓ All children have a secure understanding of diversity through ethnicity and faith.  Review:  Next steps (review date):

Provide additional information
for parents around diversity.
Work alongside parents and/or
local community to provide
additional enrichment for
children in school.