Deal Education Alliance Learning Trust

Igniting the Future

'To be the best that I can be- the way God intends'

Equality Information and Objectives

"TO BE THE BEST THAT I CAN BE – THE WAY GOD INTENDS"

Approved by:	Trustee Board	**Date:**	January 2023
Last reviewed on:	January 2023		
Next review due by:	September 2026		

Adopted by Deal Parochial Church of England Primary School Date:

Review:

Contents

1. Aims 3
2. Legislation and guidance 3
3. Roles and responsibilities 3
4. Eliminating discrimination 4
5. Advancing equality of opportunity 4
6. Fostering good relations 4
7. Equality considerations in decision-making 5
8. Equality objectives 5
9. Monitoring arrangements 6
10. Links with other policies 6

1. Aims

Our school 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.

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 Trust Board will:

- Ensure that the equality information and objectives as set out in this statement are published and communicated throughout the DEALT, 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 a daily basis to the CEO

The CEO will:

- Promote knowledge and understanding of the equality objectives among staff and pupils
- Monitor success in achieving the objectives and report back to governors

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 school 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 September.

The school 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.

5. Advancing equality of opportunity

As set out in the DfE guidance on the Equality Act, the school 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 school societies)

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

- Publish attainment data each academic year showing how pupils with different characteristics are performing
- Analyse the data referenced above 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 school 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 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 school ensures it has due regard to equality considerations whenever significant decisions are made.

The school always considers 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

The school 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 school trips and activities. The record is completed by the member of staff organising the activity and is stored electronically with the completed risk assessment.

8. Equality objectives

Objective 1

To ensure all pupils have equality of opportunity

To achieve this objective we plan to:

Focus on attainment and progress of vulnerable groups including Pupil Premium, Young Carers and SEN

Sharing effective practice across DEALT

Ensure all schools have access to required resources

Objective 2

To ensure all school curriculums are broad and balanced , and reflect the importance of equalities and inclusivity

To achieve this objective we plan to:

Ensure all schools have access to high quality plans or schemes

To use best practice to refine and improve these

Objective 3

To ensure DEALT staff and potential staff have equality of opportunity

To achieve this objective we plan to:

Widen CPD opportunities for all staff

Strengthen our HR processes to ensure they are fully inclusive for staff

Objective 4

Train all members of staff and governors involved in recruitment and selection on equal opportunities and non-discrimination by the beginning of the next academic year. Training evaluation data will show that 100% of those attending have a good understanding of the legal requirements.

To achieve this objective we plan to:

Offer DEALT wide training for staff and Governors

Progress we are making towards this objective:

Objective 5

For DEALT schools and offices to be fully accessible

To achieve this objective we plan to:

Discussion with DEALTs schools on accessibility

Accessibility to be included in any capital projects

Identify least accessible school buildings and understand impact of school community.

Progress we are making towards this objective:

9. Monitoring arrangements

The Trustee Board will update the equality information we publish at least every year.

This document will be reviewed by Trustee Board at least every 4 years.

This document will be approved by Trustee Board

10. Links with other policies

This document links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Risk assessment