



Equality Information 2017-18

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Acorn Education Trust is committed to providing a safe and vibrant learning environment for its diverse population of students.

We recognise the significant link between poor educational attainment, and reduced employment opportunities and lower earnings later on in life, and we are committed to promoting and developing equality of opportunity for all its students.

We appreciate that educational underachievement is closely linked to socio- economic deprivation, and that tackling this is the major challenge facing all schools, including those which are part of Acorn Education Trust. Information about the steps each of our schools is taking to address underachievement for this group is detailed in the published Pupil Premium Information on the relevant school's website.

Acorn Education Trust recognises that many factors can exacerbate academic underachievement for young people, such as being looked after, being a young carer, being a young person with caring responsibilities, being from a service family, and others.

Each of our schools publishes its own Equalities Information. This Information is about students who are vulnerable to underachieving at school because of inequalities in society, and refers largely to the areas that have been identified as 'Protected Characteristics' under the Equality Act 2010. Other issues of vulnerability affecting children and young people's attainment in school will be addressed elsewhere in schools' policies. It also refers to increasing students' understanding of religious/faith diversity, and promoting tolerance and understanding.

The Specific Duties of the Equalities 2010 Act enable schools to meet their obligations under the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED).

The Equality Act 2010 protects students from discrimination and harassment based on protected characteristics. The protected characteristics are:

- Disability
- Ethnicity and race
- Gender (Sex)
- Gender identity and reassignment
- Pregnancy, maternity and breastfeeding
- Religion and belief
- Sexual orientation
- Age and Marriage and Civil Partnership only apply to adults associated with the school

Acorn Education Trust's specific objectives are those set out in the Equalities Information published on each school's website.