

Equality Objective 1

To improve the recruitment, retention, progression, development and experience all staff employed by The Maltby Learning Trust to enable the organisation to become an inclusive employer of choice.

Why we have chosen this objective:

Maltby Learning Trust Schools are predominantly placed within largely White-British working class communities with a corresponding lack of diversity. This social mix is reflected in the proportion of staff drawn from different ethnic groups or with protected characteristics. By increasing the diversity of staff working within the Trust with protected characteristic we will both improve the diversity of the staff team, and ensure children experience a learning community which better reflects society as a whole.

Individual academies will select the group or groups which are the strongest indicator in their individual contexts as a focus for removing barriers.

To achieve this objective, we plan to:

The Maltby Learning Trust will ensure that no discrimination exists in the recruitment of staff through the application of carefully structured recruitment systems and the monitoring of recruitment processes. Feedback will be sought from all applicants around recruitment processes and consultation sought with representative groups about how these could be improved. In addition, regular line management meetings will be used to facilitate regular dialogue with staff with protected characteristics about their working environment and any reasonable adjustments required.

Each academy to add their own actions/strategies to enable the objective to be met, using the following prompts:

We are committed to employing the best people to work with us at Maltby Manor Academy. We aim to design and implement services, policies and measures that meet the diverse needs of our workforce ensuring that none are placed at a disadvantage over others. We therefore aim to ensure that in both employment and the delivery of services, no individual is discriminated against by reason of their gender, gender reassignment, race, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or religious/philosophical belief, marital status or civil partnership.

We will meet this by:

- Advertise vacancies widely and use fair, unbiased recruitment processes.
- Ensure selection panels are trained in equality, diversity, and inclusion.
- *Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act (2010)*
- *Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.*
- Provide clear pathways for career progression for all staff, regardless of background.
- Recognise and accommodate the needs of staff with caring responsibilities.
- Foster a culture of respect, recognition, and equality across the workplace.
- Monitor recruitment, retention, progression, and development data for inequalities.
- Ensure senior leaders and governors are accountable for promoting an inclusive employment environment.

All staff hold personal responsibility for the application of this policy on a day-to-day basis and should not undertake any acts of discriminatory practise during the course of their employment. All staff have a responsibility to highlight any potentially discriminatory practise to their line manager, HR department or Academy Principal. Copies of the Equalities Statement can be found on the academy website.

Progress we are making towards achieving this objective:

To be reviewed 2026

Equality Objective 2

To ensure that bullying and discrimination is eliminated in all its forms. To ensure that colleagues with protected characteristics feel and are safe, secure and free from discrimination in their working environment.

Why we have chosen this objective:

Evidence suggests that bullying and discrimination amongst staff teams are rare within Maltby Learning Trust academies, however, it is important that robust systems are in place to deal with these issues if they do occur. In order to ensure that these issues do not occur, diversity will be prominently promoted across all academies and an inclusive, tolerant culture actively promoted through the MLT Professional Behaviours, British Values and taught curriculum. Reviews will be also undertaken of the processes for raising concerns within each academy and how these are addressed at individual academy and whole trust level.

Individual academies will select the group or groups which are the strongest indicator in their individual contexts as a focus for removing barriers.

To achieve this objective, we plan to:

The Maltby Learning Trust will ensure that all staff, but particularly those with protected characteristics are protected from bullying and discrimination through a zero tolerance approach to bullying and discrimination and the application of effective systems for dealing with them when they occur. In addition, an inclusive and tolerant culture will be created in all academies through the explicit promotion of the MLT behaviours and British Values.

We are committed to eradicating bullying behaviours and applying the anti-bullying policy in a transparent, timely manner should instances of bullying be highlighted. We aim to ensure that in both employment and the delivery of services, no individual is discriminated against, bullied or harassed for reason of their gender, gender reassignment, race, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or religious/philosophical belief, marital status or civil partnership. We are also committed to applying the anti-bullying policy equally where protected characteristics are not a factor.

We will meet this by:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct as defined by the MLT Anti-Bullying policy.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster a culture of respect, inclusion, and mutual support across the academy and between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Ensure that the policy is equally applied in instances where diversity or protected characteristics are not a factor.
- Ensuring that all staff can demonstrate a clear understanding of core trust values and are able to articulate them in practise.
- Ensure staff understand their rights and responsibilities and feel confident to challenge discriminatory behaviour.
- Track incidents to identify patterns, monitor effectiveness of interventions, and inform improvements.
- Offer confidential support, mediation, or counselling for affected staff.
- Promote wellbeing initiatives that strengthen staff trust, morale, and confidence.
- Encourage leaders to model inclusive behaviour and actively challenge bias.
- Ensure staff with protected characteristics have representation and a voice in decision-making.

All staff hold personal responsibility for the application of this policy on a day-to-day basis and should not undertake any acts of discriminatory practise, bullying or harassment during the course of their employment. All staff have a responsibility to highlight any potentially discriminatory practise, bullying or harassment to their line manager, HR department or Academy Principal. Copies of the Anti-Bullying policy can be found on the academy website.

Progress we are making towards achieving this objective:

To be reviewed 2026

Equality Objective 3

To ensure that targeted vulnerable groups receive equality of access to education by ensuring:

- Attendance exceeds national averages for all pupils in schools where attendance is below this level
- OR
- The attendance of vulnerable pupil groups exceeds the attendance of all pupils where overall attendance exceeds national average.

(Specific focus groups, subjects and success criteria to be determined by each academy)

Why we have chosen this objective:

While the workforce of the Maltby Learning Trust has a weighting in favour of female employees (591 female/264 male – 2025), a greater percentage of male employees fall within the middle to higher earning quartiles. The MLT commits itself, as an inclusive employer, to address this gap.

(Specific focus groups, subjects and success criteria to be determined by each academy)

To achieve this objective, we plan to:

Maltby Learning Trust will work to ensure that female employees are supported in applying for higher earning roles within the organisation. We will ensure that no bias, conscious or unconscious, is present in recruitment processes or provision of PPLD and other opportunities through monitoring and evaluation of uptake and feedback.

Each academy to add their own actions/strategies to enable the objective to be met, using the following prompts:

We are committed to ensuring higher earning roles are offered with equality of access. We are also committed to ensuring that PPLD opportunities are offered with same equality of access. Our recruitment process will be unbiased and applicants are never discriminated against in terms of gender for any post in the academy. All training and development needs are open to all staff regardless of any protected characteristics. This includes roles at all levels. Monitoring of equal opportunities and the recruitment processes will be ongoing

We will meet this by:

1. Acknowledging and addressing 'The Confidence Gap' (Kay & Shipman, 2014) to ensure female employees feel confident to apply for higher earning roles within the organisation

2. Ensuring that the language used in job descriptions / adverts will attract more diverse applicants (removing any language which could be perceived as 'aggressive' or male dominant (Language Matters, 2019), acknowledging that language is perceived differently by male and female candidates.
3. Sharing stories of female employees who are succeeding in high earning roles
4. Ensuring all PPLD opportunities are offered with equality of access.
5. Ensuring Early Career teachers are made aware of the pathways to higher earning roles regardless of gender and encouraged to 'aim high'

Progress we are making towards achieving this objective:

To be reviewed 2026