

# **Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Policy**



Date of Approval: 01 September 2023

Approved by: Arnold Kaloki Position: Chief Executive Next review: 31 August 2024

## **Description**

BrightTeach is committed to encouraging equality, diversity and inclusion among our workforce, and eliminating unlawful discrimination. This policy is fully supported by senior management.

The aim is for our workforce to be truly representative of all sections of society and our clients and students, and for each employee to feel respected and able to give their best.

### **Summary**

Our policy's purpose is to:

- 1. Provide equality, fairness and respect for all in our employment, whether temporary, part-time or full-time.
- 2. Not unlawfully discriminate because of the Equality Act 2010 (Amendment) Regulations 2023 protected characteristics of:
  - Age
  - Disability
  - Gender reassignment
  - Marriage and civil partnership
  - Pregnancy and maternity
  - Race (including colour, nationality, and ethnic or national origin)
  - Religion or belief
  - Sex
  - Sexual orientation
- 3. Not unlawfully discriminate because of the Equality Act 2010 protected characteristics of:



- Pay and benefits
- Terms and conditions of employment
- Dealing with grievances and discipline
- Dismissal
- Redundancy
- Leave for parents
- Requests for flexible working
- Selection for employment, promotion, training or other developmental opportunities

#### **Our commitments**

The organisation commits to:

- Create a working environment free of bullying, harassment, victimisation and unlawful discrimination, promoting dignity and respect for all, and where individual differences and the contributions of all staff are recognised and valued.
  - This commitment includes training managers and employees about their rights and responsibilities under the equality, diversity and inclusion policy. Responsibilities include staff conducting themselves to help the organisation provide equal opportunities in employment and prevent bullying, harassment, victimisation and unlawful discrimination.
- 2. All staff should understand they, as well as their employer, can be held liable for acts of bullying, harassment, victimisation and unlawful discrimination, in the course of their employment, against fellow employees, customers, suppliers and the public.
  - Take complaints of bullying, harassment, victimisation and unlawful discrimination by fellow employees, clients, students, suppliers, visitors, the public and any others in the course of the organisation's work activities seriously.

Such acts will be dealt with as misconduct under the organisation's grievance and/or disciplinary procedures, and appropriate action will be taken. Severe complaints could amount to gross misconduct and lead to dismissal without notice.

Further, sexual harassment may amount to both an employment rights matter and a criminal matter, such as sexual assault allegations. In addition, harassment under the Protection from Harassment Act 1997 – which is not limited to circumstances where harassment relates to a protected characteristic – is a criminal offence.



- Make opportunities for training, development and progress available to all staff, who
  will be helped and encouraged to develop their full potential, so their talents and
  resources can be fully utilised to maximise the organisation's efficiency.
- 4. Make decisions concerning staff being based on merit (apart from any necessary and limited exemptions and exceptions allowed under the Equality Act 2010).
- 5. Review employment practices and procedures when necessary to ensure fairness, and also update them and the policy to take account of changes in the law.
- 6. Monitor the make-up of the workforce regarding information such as age, sex, ethnic background, sexual orientation, religion or belief, and disability in encouraging equality, diversity and inclusion, and in meeting the aims and commitments set out in the equality, diversity and inclusion policy.

Monitoring will also include assessing how the equality, diversity and inclusion policy, and any supporting action plan, are working in practice, reviewing them annually, and considering and taking action to address any issues.

#### **Related Items**

**Equality Act 2010**