



EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES CHARTER

The Learning Community Trust recognises that within our society there is widespread disadvantage. Members of black or minority ethnic communities, women, those who care for dependants, people with disabilities, older people, people with criminal convictions and those whose sexuality is different from that of the majority often do not get a fair deal in employment matters because of direct or indirect discrimination, either intentional or unintentional. They are therefore prevented from making the most of their potential. This is damaging to those who discriminate and to those who are discriminated against and to organisations which fail to benefit to the full from the skills and talents which such people may have to offer. The Trust is committed to opposing discrimination and promoting equality of opportunity by taking such appropriate steps as are within its power and within statutory provision. The Trust recognises its obligations under various pieces of legislation relating to equality of opportunity.

The Trust's Employment Equality Promise

The Trust gives an undertaking that all of its employees, and those who apply for employment, will be treated with equal fairness, respect and dignity, regardless of race, colour, gender, sexuality, marital status, gender reassignment, care of dependants, age, disability, religious or political beliefs, pregnancy or maternity, or unrelated criminal convictions. The Trust will therefore:-

- Publicise this commitment to all of its employees and within the community at large.
- Encourage job applications from all sections of the community.
- Ensure that its employees receive appropriate training so that they can both understand and actively promote equal opportunity policies.
- Ensure that the Trust's existing and future personnel policies and conditions of service are applied fairly to all employees and are such that they can both promote equality of opportunity and seek to remove obstacles to its achievement.
- Ensure that medical fitness requirements are determined having regard to the demands of particular posts, are applied fairly and consistently and do not discriminate against those with particular medical conditions.
- Measure the effectiveness of its policies by regular monitoring of both existing employees and of job applicants and the publication of an annual equal opportunity report.
- Ensure that any allegation of discrimination contrary to the provisions of this Charter is thoroughly investigated and that appropriate action is taken.