

## **Access and participation statement**

We are mindful of the expectations of the Equality Act 2010 to advance equality of opportunity and to foster good relations between different parts of the community. We are also mindful of the need to demonstrate a commitment to equity, as set out in the UK Quality Code.

We serve a multiracial and multilingual community and have a diverse range of employees. Our structure, policies and practices need to reflect the community we serve. We recognise the fact that vulnerable people, including those with a learning disability, have been discriminated against in the past and will ensure that we work toward redressing such discrimination. Adherence to our Equal opportunities procedure is a condition of service for all staff.

The Academy has published procedures on Student engagement and Information advice and guidance, together with procedures on Equality and diversity and Disability. Student welfare services are available to all students who may be experiencing problems such as difficulties with coursework, problems settling in, homesickness, bullying, financial difficulties, health issues, family problems and any forms of abuse. The Academy is committed to providing comprehensive and confidential services to our students.

The Academy undertakes to provide a high quality educational experience for all its students and appropriate advice on progression and employment opportunities.

We offer a range of services for current and prospective students and can assist with a wide variety of issues relating to students' individual needs and requirements. These include:

- giving impartial course guidance
- providing financial advice and information about accommodation
- keeping students informed about travel assistance and other dispensations available
- liaising with external agencies on behalf of students
- providing general employment advice and guidance
- arranging external counselling support and guidance where necessary