

# Equality Policy

**How Pearson UK is working to meet the diverse needs of its learners  
through its qualifications and assessments**

For internal and external use

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Regulation, Standards and Research



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## Introduction

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As part of our commitment to quality assurance Pearson UK seeks to provide learners with guidance and support to help them achieve their learning and development goals while meeting any regulatory requirements.

This policy is about how Pearson UK is committed to meet the diverse needs of all its learners.

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that it remains fit for purpose.

## Scope of Policy

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Equality and fairness are central to our work. All learners should have equal opportunity to access our qualifications and assessments, and our qualifications should be awarded in a way that is fair to every learner.

This policy demonstrates our commitment to:

- the accessibility of the qualifications that we provide
- equality of opportunity for learners to access our internal and portfolio assessments, and our paper-based and computer-based tests
- fairness in our application of access arrangements

## Policy Statement

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We are committed to ensuring that:

- Learners with a protected characteristic are not, when they are undertaking one of our qualifications, disadvantaged in comparison to learners who do not share that characteristic.
- All learners achieve the recognition they deserve from undertaking a qualification and that this achievement can be fairly compared to the achievement of their peers.

Specifically we will:

- Conduct Equality Impact Assessments of our specifications during the development process.
- Apply the Fair Access by Design guidelines created by QCDA and now maintained by OfQUAL.
- Examine and monitor all available data relating to candidate achievement to detect accidental bias.
- Assess and strive to improve the accessibility of customer-facing IT systems
- Fulfil our obligation to meet the access arrangements requested for our learners in a way that does not disadvantage either them or their peers

## Policy Review Date

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This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis. The next review is due in April 2012.

## Useful Contacts

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For more information on Pearson UK's commitment to equality and fairness for all of its learners please contact [UKEquality@edexcel.com](mailto:UKEquality@edexcel.com).

A copy of the Equality Act 2010 can be found on the HMSO website.