

Lancashire Equality and Inclusion Mark Relaunch: A Step Towards Inclusive Education



Lancashire Equality and Inclusion Mark

Lancashire County Council recently celebrated the relaunch of its **Equality and Inclusion Mark**. The event was attended by key figures including County Councillor Jayne Rear, Cabinet Member for Education & Skills. The **Equality & Diversity team** hosted the event and were joined by Education Partnership Officers, Refugee Resettlement Team, Virtual School representatives, and students from **Howick CE Primary School** and **Clitheroe Pendle Primary School**, both of which have proudly achieved the Equality and Inclusion Mark.

The relaunch event featured a tour of the council chamber for the children, who had the unique opportunity to engage with Councillor Rear. Councillor Rear heard from the children and headteachers about the importance of this process and the positive impact it has on fostering an inclusive environment in schools.

The Lancashire Equality and Inclusion Mark is comprised of **six individual badges**: Race Equality, Gender Equality, Disability Equality, Holistic Diversity Equality, Sexual Orientation Equality, and Religion and Belief Equality. Schools can choose their own pathway and work at their own pace, selecting from a range of support packages tailored to their specific needs.

During the event, attendees reflected on their progress towards achieving the Equality and Inclusion Mark, celebrating milestones and discussing the greatest impacts and challenges faced. The **Holistic Diversity Equality Badge**, in particular, was highlighted for its expanded scope, which now includes pupils from financially disadvantaged backgrounds, those with parents in the armed forces, pupils with social workers, children on Child in Need or Child Protection plans, young carers, and children in kinship arrangements.

The relaunch marks a renewed commitment to equality and inclusion, with schools setting clear action plans and priorities for the future. The Equality and Inclusion Mark underscores Lancashire's dedication to creating a supportive and inclusive educational environment for all students.



This event not only celebrated the achievements of Howick and Pendle Primaries but also set the stage for continued progress and collaboration among schools, the authority, and the community in promoting equality and inclusion.

*"The review of the Equality and Inclusion Mark has been a **true collaboration with partners**, including schools and children and young people," said Roxana Sardais from the Equality & Diversity Team. "It was great to hear from the schools how working towards the Lancashire Equality and Inclusion Mark meant **a real culture change** in school. Both schools stated that they were now more reflective in terms of considering how to meet pupils' needs and, moreover, both schools have clear plans to sustain and develop their approach to equality and inclusion in the future."*

If you are interested in embarking on the Equality and Inclusion Mark process at your school, please [contact us](#).

To celebrate the relaunch of the Equality and Inclusion Mark and the inclusive practice found in many Lancashire school, we have developed the '[Lancashire – We Learn Together](#)' film. It aims to share and celebrate inclusive practices. While it highlights just a few examples, it represents a broader commitment to inclusivity and innovation. These schools not only

showcase the hard work and care of school staff but also inspire other schools to share their good practice and reflect on any improvements they could make.



<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/media/959909/9933-we-learn-together-brochure-a4-web.pdf>

More information on how our team can support with you can be found in the [brochure](#) above...

... and enjoy the [video](#) below!

