Equality Diversity & Inclusion

Types of discrimination ('protected characteristics')

It is against the law to discriminate against anyone because of:

- age
- being or becoming a transsexual person
- being married or in a civil partnership
- being pregnant or on maternity leave
- disability
- race including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin
- religion, belief or lack of religion/belief
- sex
- sexual orientation

These are called ‘protected characteristics’

You are protected from discrimination:

- at work
- in education
- as a consumer
- when using public services
- when buying or renting property
- as a member or guest of a private club or association

You’re legally protected from discrimination by the Equality Act 2010

You’re also protected from discrimination if:

- you’re associated with someone who has a protected characteristic, e.g. a family member or friend
- you’ve complained about discrimination or supported someone else’s claim