

1 February 2021

Mr David Batty  
Senior Reporter, The Guardian  
Via email: [david.batty@theguardian.com](mailto:david.batty@theguardian.com)

Dear Mr Batty

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST**

Thank you for your recent Freedom of Information request sent via email and received by us on 4 January 2021.

Your request was in the form of the following questions:

**Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 please provide me with the following information about how the academy trust addresses race equality and racism. Please explain any gaps in your data.**

**FOI questions, the response to each of your questions is listed in red:**

**1.** How many incidents of racism have been recorded by the schools managed by your academy trust in each of the following school years? (Please provide the number of incidents recorded by all the trust's schools, i.e the aggregate per year.)

|                 |    |
|-----------------|----|
| 2016-17         | 13 |
| 2017-18         | 30 |
| 2018-19         | 69 |
| 2019-20         | 88 |
| 2020-21 to date | 49 |

**2.** How many schools managed by your academy trust recorded racist incidents in each of the following school years?

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 2016-17         | 4 |
| 2017-18         | 4 |
| 2018-19         | 5 |
| 2019-20         | 5 |
| 2020-21 to date | 6 |

**3.** How many pupils received a fixed-period exclusion for racism in the schools managed by your academy trust in each of the following school years? (Please provide the exclusions recorded by all the trust's schools, i.e the aggregate per year.)

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 2016-17         | 5 |
| 2017-18         | 8 |
| 2018-19         | 2 |
| 2019-20         | 3 |
| 2020-21 to date | 4 |

**4.** How many pupils were permanently excluded for committing racist incidents in the schools managed by your academy trust in each of the following school years? (Please provide the exclusions recorded by all the trust's schools, i.e. the aggregate per year.)

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 2016-17         | 0 |
| 2017-18         | 0 |
| 2018-19         | 0 |
| 2019-20         | 0 |
| 2020-21 to date | 0 |

**(N.B. in questions 1, 2 and 3 I am requesting the total figures for all schools – not the figures for each school. However, if you have existing documents or spreadsheets that list the requested figures for each school for these five years then please provide them.)**

**5.** Does the trust have a written commitment to deliver an inclusive and diverse curriculum?

Yes. Further work is being undertaken on this. The Board of Trustees has established a special committee to look at Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and a number of schools have made significant progress with critiquing their curriculum by working with, for example, The Black Curriculum, Kids of Colour and the Leeds Beckett Centre for Race, Education and Decoloniality.

6. Does the trust/its schools provide teachers with the following:

6.1 Unconscious bias training? **Yes**

6.2 Dedicated anti-racism training? **Yes**

6.3. If you provide the above training, please state whether it is mandatory for all teaching staff. **Not all training is currently mandatory.**

One of our schools did not hold data from the academic years 2016-17 and 2017-18 due to a move from one recording system to another.

I hope that this answers your request satisfactorily and I look forward to reading the outcome of your work on this important subject. We are undertaking a considerable amount of work in this area and are working with colleagues such as Professor Vini Lander to inform and guide our approaches.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should e-mail [admin@bfet.uk](mailto:admin@bfet.uk)

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our complaints' procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

**John Wm Stephens**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**On behalf of Bright Futures Educational Trust**