

RISE recognises the considerable positive impact that taking part in sport and physical activity brings to an individual's physical and mental wellbeing. It improves the quality of lives of those that take part, and it also plays a significant role in achieving wider outcomes, such as educational attainment, employability, social development, crime reduction and community cohesion to name a few. We are passionate about helping everyone across Northumberland and Tyne & Wear, particularly under-represented groups and those communities that need it the most, to be able to experience and enjoy the benefits that sport and physical activity provide in order to contribute to improvements in quality of life.

We recognise that we live in a diverse society and that some groups of people do not have equal access to sport and physical activity, and this is something we are committed to challenging and addressing. We want to tackle the inequalities that exist, promoting and enabling equal access to sport and physical activity and supporting under-represented individuals, groups and communities to be able to take part, and to feel comfortable doing so in whatever activity they choose.

We will focus on encouraging and advocating for policies and practices that promote equality, diversity and inclusion at all levels in sport and physical activity, including ensuring that it is embedded in projects and programmes that we support and fund. We will also encourage our partner organisations and other providers that we work with to adopt and demonstrate their commitment to the principles and practices of equality, diversity and inclusion, as set out in our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy.

We are fully committed to supporting the principle and practice of equality of opportunity, treating everyone according to their needs, and being as diverse and inclusive as we possibly can be. Nobody should receive less favourable treatment or consideration, nor be unlawfully treated, on the grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, or sex or sexual orientation (together known as the "protected characteristics"). They also should not be disadvantaged by any conditions or requirements that cannot be justified as necessary on legal grounds.

Our Board of Trustees, Senior Management Team and all employees are fully committed to the principles within this statement.