

**Better Futures Multi Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Gender Pay Report
31 March 2020**

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1. Introduction

Better Futures Multi-Academy Trust (BFMAT) is required by law to publish an annual gender pay gap report.

BFMAT is an equal opportunities employer. We support the fair treatment of all staff, irrespective of gender through our transparent recruitment, pay, and professional development processes.

We use pay scales for all teaching staff. These are aligned with the minimum and maximum of each pay scale within Teachers Pay and Conditions Document, which is reviewed annually. Non-teaching staff pay scales are set by National Joint Council for Local Government Services. We apply these pay scales within our academies. Staff can progress through the pay scales based on their performance following a robust process, meaning that earnings are determined by performance outcomes irrespective of gender.

This is the Gender Pay Gap report for the snapshot date of 31st March 2020.

The report covers 443 members of staff.

The percentage split of male and female employees is:

68.9% female,

31.1% male.

2. Mean & Median Outcomes

- The **mean** gender pay gap for hourly pay is **17.45%**.
 - Mean hourly rate for men **£24.99**
 - Mean hourly rate for women **£20.63**
- The **median** gender pay gap for hourly pay is **30.33%**.
 - Median hourly rate for men: **£31.09**
 - Median hourly rate for women: **£21.66**

The proportion and males and females in each quartile band:

	Quartile band description	Male	Female	Total	Male %	Female %
		number	number	number		
A	Lower	25	85	110	22.7%	77.3%
	(0–25% of full-pay relevant employees)					
B	Lower middle	27	84	111	24.3%	75.7%
	(25–50% of full-pay relevant employees)					
C	Upper middle	36	75	111	32.4%	67.6%
	(50–75% of full-pay relevant employees)					
D	Upper	50	61	111	45.0%	55.0%
	(75–100% of full-pay relevant employees)					
	Total	138	305	443	31.1%	68.9%

The figures set out above have been calculated using the standard methodologies used in the Equality Act 2010 (Gender Pay Gap Information) Regulations 2017.

3. What are the underlying causes of BFMAT's gender pay gap?

Under the law, men and women must receive equal pay for:

- the same or broadly similar work;
- work rated as equivalent under a job evaluation scheme; or
- work of equal value.

BFMAT is committed to the principle of equal opportunities and equal treatment for all employees, regardless of sex, race, religion or belief, age, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy/maternity, sexual orientation, gender reassignment or disability. It has a clear policy of paying employees equally for the same or equivalent work, regardless of their sex (or any other characteristic set out above).

BFMAT is therefore confident that its gender pay gap does not stem from paying men and women differently for the same or equivalent work. Rather its gender pay gap is the result of the roles in which men and women work within the organisation and the salaries that these roles attract. Across the UK economy, men are more likely than women to be in senior roles (especially very senior roles), while women are more likely than men to be in front-line roles at the lower end of the organisation. In addition, men are more likely to be in technical and IT-related roles, which attract higher rates of pay than other roles at similar levels of seniority. Women are also more likely than men to have had breaks from work that have affected their career progression, for example to bring up children. They are also more likely to work part time, and many of the jobs that are available across the UK on a part-time basis are relatively low paid.

This can be seen above in the table depicting pay quartiles by gender. This shows BFMAT's workforce divided into four equal-sized groups based on hourly pay rates, with Band A: including the lowest-paid 25% of employees (the lower quartile) and Band D covering the highest-paid 25% (the upper quartile). For there to be no gender pay gap, there would need to be an equal ratio of men to women in each Band. However, within BFMAT, 77.3% of the employees in Band A are women and 22.7% men. The percentage of male employees increases throughout the remaining Bands, from 24.3% in Band B to 32.4% in C and 45.0% in D.

4. How does BFMAT's gender pay gap compare with that of other organisations?

The gender pay gap for the whole economy (according to the March 2020 Office for National Statistics (ONS)) for all employees is 15.5%, down from 17.4% in 2019.

5. How are we supporting gender equality in the Trust?

While BFMAT's gender pay gap compares favourably with that of organisations both across the whole UK economy and within the education sector, BFMAT is committed to doing everything that it can to reduce the gap. BFMAT recognises that its scope to act is limited in some areas - it has, for example, no direct control over the subjects that individuals choose to study or the career choices that they make.

The Trust operates as an equal opportunities employer and does not discriminate in any way (as defined by the Equalities Act 2010 and other relevant legislation) regarding recruitment, performance management and career development opportunities.

BFMAT is committed to ensuring that all support posts across the Trust are appropriately and consistently graded irrespective of the gender of the post holder. The MAT is reviewing pay scales across each college to ensure consistency of pay scales for job roles. However, pay scales for teachers and support staff are set nationally and not at college level.

Working with both the public sector and specifically education, it is common for a high proportion of the workforce to be female.

We are committed to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion values that ensure that all stakeholders of the Trust feel respected and valued and that the principles of openness, transparency, fairness, and equality are applied across the Trust.

We will seek to challenge the historical imbalance in the education sector where a disproportionate number of lower paid support staff roles are occupied by female employees.

6. Conclusion

I can confirm that the information collated in the report has been drawn from our payroll records and is an accurate reflection of the position relating to gender pay in our academies.



Uly Lyons
Chief Executive Officer, BFMAT
21 September 2021

