

Reference	NDST-POL-02
Version	1.0
Issue Date	24/01/2020
Approved	MD

## Vision

NDST Limited is committed to creating a culture in which diversity and equality of opportunity are promoted actively and in which unlawful discrimination is not tolerated. NDST recognizes the real business benefits of having a diverse community of staff and to this end, is working towards building and maintaining an environment which values diversity.

## Policy Statement

NDST believes in the principles of social justice, acknowledges that discrimination affects people in complex ways and is committed to challenge all forms of inequality. To this end, NDST will aim to ensure that:

- individuals are treated fairly, with dignity and respect regardless of their age, marital status, disability, race, faith, gender, language, social/ economical background or being lesbian or gay and any other inappropriate distinction;
- it promotes an inclusive and supportive environment for staff;

## Aims of the Policy and underpinning principles

The aim of this policy is to ensure that in carrying out its activities NDST will have due regard to:

- promoting equality of opportunity, across all the area's of the organisation
- promoting good relations between people of a diverse background
- eliminating unlawful discrimination

This policy is guided by the following principles, that:

- all staff, should enjoy a safe environment free from discrimination and harassment/bullying
- all employees should have equal access to quality services that are made available by NDST
- all staff should have equal access to opportunities for personal, professional or academic development and career, progression and promotion opportunities wherever possible.

## Responsibilities

**The Managing Director** is responsible for ensuring the strategic development, implementation and review of the Equality and Diversity Policy and progress on the implementation across the organization.

**The Managing Director** is responsible for ensuring that procedures relating to staff recruitment, selection, career development discipline and grievance are carried out in accordance with the Equality and Diversity Policy.

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**The Managing Director is responsible for:**

- fostering a culture in which compliance with this policy is regarded as integral to the work of the area and in which equality and diversity issues are actively promoted;
- ensuring all staff are encouraged, supported and enabled to reach their full potential
- identifying appropriate staff development for themselves and their staff to meet the needs of their respective areas

**Breach of the Policy**

NDST will take seriously any instances of non-adherence to the Equality and Diversity policy by staff. Any instances of non-adherence will be investigated and where appropriate will be considered under the relevant disciplinary policy.

**Relevant Legislation**

NDST has implemented its Equality and Diversity Policy in accordance with current legislation and codes of practice including:

- EU Anti-Discrimination Directives (which currently include the Race Relations Act 1976 (Amendment) Regulations 2003, Religion and Belief Regulation 2004 and Sexual Orientation Regulation 2004
- Race Relations Amendment Act 2000
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Disability Discrimination Act 1995
- Race Relations Act 1976
- Sex Discrimination Act 1975
- Equal Pay Act 1970 and Amendment 1983

Approved By



Paul Donnelly  
(General Standards control)  
24<sup>TH</sup> January 2020