



**nwea**

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

# Equity Statement

## What we believe

NWEA® strives to be an industry leader in educational equity. Equity is the fair treatment, access, opportunity, and advancement for students that facilitate their individual success and belonging. Our organization's mission, Partnering to help all kids learn®, is the foundation for our commitment to reflect, value, and support the educators, students, colleagues, and communities we serve.

Employing student-centered teaching and learning is the basis of an equitable educational practice. Enacting equity helps educators identify and eliminate the barriers to access and opportunities that put students at a disadvantage. Our entry points for equity framework can be used as a tool to help talk about equity, to support educators in their instructional practices, and to provide stakeholders with a structured way to begin to address the impact of systemic injustices in education.

## How we take action

When it comes to enacting equity, educators need a way to approach equity from a different perspective so that it doesn't feel like one more thing to implement. Our equity-focused workshops are anchored in the entry points for equity: mindsets, relationships, products, spaces, processes, and systems.

The entry points for equity is a framework to guide the equity conversation by empowering educators with tools to put equity into action. This positions educators as change agents while building their capacity to remove barriers for their students.



## Practices of an equitable and excellent education

- Using an asset-based mindset
- Holding high expectations of students
- Creating a welcoming, inclusive, and affirming environment
- Building relationships with the community
- Providing high-quality teaching and learning
- Employing formative practices to improve student understanding

## Using the entry points to act on equity

The six entry points are how we access our understanding of and experiences with equity. Opportunities for equitable teaching and learning are everywhere. Entry points help us highlight where those opportunities are—and provide starting points where those opportunities don't exist.



### Mindsets

Educators' mental attitudes, along with their empowering or disempowering beliefs about students, impact their teaching and learning. Beliefs about content, pedagogy, and students can influence teaching and instructional decision-making.



### Relationships

Building and maintaining psychologically safe relationships with students is critical. Knowing that all relationships begin with the self, educators should explore how their experiences as learners shaped how they think about education, how they engage with content, and what they believe about their students' potential.



### Products

Access to rigorous content and the use of high-quality instructional materials are essential for equitable instruction. Educators need ample time to examine the tools used to support teaching and learning—such as curricula, text, and digital programs.



### Spaces

Students' identities are strengthened when they feel a sense of belonging and when their identities are affirmed and validated. Educators should intentionally design and examine the environment they create for learning from a student's perspective.



### Processes

Processes are the routines, procedures, and protocols used in day-to-day teaching and learning. Equitable processes ensure all students are empowered to succeed. Effective processes help ensure that learners understand what they're learning, how they are learning, and why they are learning.



## Systems

Each school or district has essential systems in place to serve students. Consider the decision-making structures and policies you use to support learners and how educators are supported in being best equipped to help all students learn.

Equity will always be a key component of teaching and learning, and the entry points for equity framework helps us talk about equity and make it a priority in our work. We can approach the equity conversation in timely, relevant, and purposeful ways using any of the six entry points to create better outcomes for students.

### Our products and services

We partner with educators to help all kids learn through ongoing learning development opportunities. These solutions are designed to support educators who are working directly with students as well as leaders and coaches supporting educators in their professional growth.

- + **Products:** Our equity workshops are based on the book *The Equity Expression: 6 Entry Points for Nonnegotiable Academic Success*, a joint publication of Corwin® and NWEA. A complimentary copy of the book is available with certain workshop purchases.
- + **Services:** Our equity workshops are available for purchase.
  - **Leveraging Data for Equity**—Understand how data identities impact the way we engage in data conversations.
  - **Equity-Focused Data Frames**—Examine how dispositions and beliefs can impact data conversations.
  - **Equitable Instructional Practices**—Explore barriers to student success and pathways for teachers to increase student agency.
  - **Equity Foundations**—Learn the NWEA entry points for equity framework and how to use it as a guide for equity conversations and decision-making.
  - **Exploring Authentic Mindsets and Relationships**—Make sense of how to build psychologically safe relationships and amplify your agency as an equity-empowered educator.
  - **Equity in Action: Processes**—Delve into how an educator’s day-to-day processes and practices are ways to enact equity.

### Connect

Get in touch with your account manager directly or call 866.654.3246 to be routed to them. We’ll be happy to discuss your needs.