

Extremism, No Platform Policy



King David

PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

Approved by:
Governing Body

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EXTREMISM (NO PLATFORM) POLICY

Responding to speakers promoting messages of hatred and intolerance

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1. Introduction

This "Extremism/No Platform Policy" aims to ensure that King David Primary School balances the right of freedom of speech against the potential use of its facilities for the promotion of extremist ideological, religious or political beliefs. In this context, beliefs are considered to be extremist if they include the expression of racist or fascist views; if they incite hatred based on religious interpretation, ideology or belief; or if they promote discrimination on the grounds of political opinion, age, colour, disability, ethnic or national origin, gender, marital status, race, religion or sexual orientation.

This model policy is based on the **No Platform Policy of Birmingham City Council**, which is found at:

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/downloads/file/18619/bcc_no_platform_policy

This provides further information and, in particular, Appendix 1 has guidelines on conducting research into the background of potential speakers.

2. Definitions

"Extremism" is defined by the Government in the Prevent Strategy as:

"Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas."

Not every part of this definition has to be satisfied for a particular individual or organisation to be regarded as extremist."

The Equality Act 2010 prohibits discrimination, harassment or victimisation on the basis of the "protected characteristics". These are:

- Age;
- Disability;
- Gender reassignment;
- Marriage and civil partnership;
- Pregnancy and maternity;
- Race;
- Religion or belief;
- Sexual orientation.

The Terrorism Act 2000 establishes a list of "proscribed organisations". These are organisations that the Home Secretary believes are concerned in terrorism. It is an offence to belong to a proscribed organisation or to invite support for a proscribed organisation. This includes arranging, managing or addressing a meeting that is intended to support the activities of a proscribed organisation.

A list of proscribed organisations and full details of the proscription offences can be found at:
[https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/proscribed-terror-groups-or-organisations-- 2/proscribed-terrorist-groups-or-organisations-accessible-version](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/proscribed-terror-groups-or-organisations--2/proscribed-terrorist-groups-or-organisations-accessible-version)

3. Principles

The Principles on which this policy is based are:

- No person may use the facilities of King David Primary School to express or promote extremist ideological, religious or political views.
- No person may use the facilities of King David Primary School to express or promote discriminatory views in relation to the protected characteristics listed in the Equality Act 2010.
- Nelson Primary School does not allow the use of its facilities by any group or organisation that is proscribed by HM Government.

4. Electronic Communication

King David Primary School does not allow the use of the school website, IT facilities or information management processes to:

- Promote discriminatory views in relation to the protected characteristics listed in the Equality Act 2010;
- Promote or glorify terrorism; or
- Promote extreme ideological, religious or political beliefs.

King David Primary School has the right to exercise control over all activities on its IT facilities, including electronic communications associated with the name of the schools and use of schools' equipment to access external resources. This includes the right to monitor the use of schools' resources.

5. Written and Printed Communication

King David Primary School has the right to exercise control over the content of any written or printed material that identifies itself as associated with the school. It will not allow the use of its facilities in the production of such material, or permit the use of its name, or of any identifying marks relating to the school, in such material, if that material appears to:

- Promote discriminatory views in relation to the protected characteristics listed in the Equality Act 2010;
- Promote or glorify terrorism; or
- Promote extreme ideological, religious or political beliefs.

6. Use of Buildings, Facilities and Property

In deciding whether to allow any group or organisation to make use of its buildings, facilities and property, or deliver activities to pupils, King David School will take into account the views, policies and objectives of that group or organisation and may refuse on the grounds that these are incompatible with the policies and objectives of the schools. In particular, access will be refused if it appears likely that the proposed activity would promote extremist ideological, political or religious beliefs. Staff will complete a 'Visitors Notification' form which will need to be signed off by the Headteacher before visitors will be allowed in school. For clubs run for children by outside agencies who are using the premises, we refer all hirers to [Keeping children safe during community activities, after-school clubs and tuition: non-statutory guidance for providers running out-of-school settings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/keeping-children-safe-during-community-activities-after-school-clubs-and-tuition-non-statutory-guidance-for-providers-running-out-of-school-settings) and request the necessary documentation as well as sharing our own documentation. (See Lettings Policy)

7. Accountability

The Governing Body, as the statutory body of the school, has ultimate responsibility for this policy. The implementation of the policy is the responsibility of the Head teacher.

King David School uses the No Platform Policy of Birmingham City Council for guidance on conducting research into the background of potential speakers, consulting other schools, other organisations, using search engines, assessing the reliability of information found, identifying risks to community cohesion etc.

8. Reporting Concerns

School staff have a responsibility to act on concerns. Staff have training on how to recognise a potential issue with the promotion of extremism in school.

Staff should report concerns to the Lead DSL (Mrs Fiona Owen) or a Deputy DSL (Mrs Holly Hinds & Helen Symth)

Any staff member who has raised a concern will be given feedback on the action taken.

If after reporting a concern, staff feel that no satisfactory action has been taken, then they should escalate the concern by informing the Chair of Governors of their concerns. If a concern needs to be escalated still further, then the schools Whistleblowing Policy is to be used.

9. Training

The school ensures that school staff and Governors receive appropriate training in the issues raised by this policy. Prevent training takes place annually in September.

10. Content check list

No Platform Policy – Undesirable Bookings

Advice and Good Practice for Venue Bookings

Follow the steps below to mitigate the risks of undesirable books. This document is not a definitive list and should be used in conjunction with other checking mechanisms.

ASK

What's planned and who's planning it?

1. Who is the individual or organisation booking the event?
 - Ask for their name and associated names they operate under
 - Ask for their address and phone number
 - Get details of the individual or the organisations website and associated websites.
2. Do they implement a policy that promotes equality and diversity and challenges all forms of discrimination? Or will they agree to their event subscribing to your equality and diversity policy?
3. Ask for details of the event, including: theme; title; agenda; content; speakers; expected audience, numbers and demographics; details of how the event will be promoted (ask for copies of flyers/posters etc); is the event open to the public or a ticket only event?

DECIDE

Do you let the event go ahead? Or take action to reduce risk?

Use the information collected to inform your decision.

TOP TIPS when taking bookings

- If the booking is being arranged by an event management or another company, make sure you know who their client is
- Be wary of individuals only giving out mobile numbers
- If the enquiries are about internet use and bandwidth, investigate whether any speakers will partake remotely
- Be wary of individuals/organisations making large cash payments
- Ensure that in the event of reputational risk you can withdraw from the contract

TOP TIPS when researching individuals/organisations online

- Complete a thorough investigation on the individual/organisation by:
 - Viewing their website(s)
 - Looking at what other people are saying about them (article/blogs etc.)
- Complete a thorough check on any speakers by looking at what other people are saying about them (article/blogs etc.)
- When you are looking at a website, check that it is being kept up to date
- If you are unsure about an organisation, check it has a landline number and a business address
- Where possible use primary evidence – an organisations manifesto or a person speaking on YouTube

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

List of Terrorist Organisations banned under U.K Law

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/proscribed-terror-groups-or-organisations--2>

The Charity Commission

charity.commission.gov.uk

If you still have a concern about the booking, you can contact your Local Authority

noplatform@birmingham.gov.uk

In case of an Emergency dial **999**

If you have any information about suspicious activity or behaviour contact Counter Terrorist Police via:

Gov.uk/ACT or call **0800 789 321**

Risk Assessment Template: [Prevent duty: risk assessment templates - GOV.UK](#)