



## QUEEN VICTORIA PRIMARY SCHOOL

### 'No Platform' Policy for Extremism within School

Policy Number:	School Policy
Approved by:	Full Governing Body
Date:	28 <sup>th</sup> June 2023

## 1. Introduction

This “No Platform” policy document aims to ensure that Queen Victoria Primary School balances the right of freedom of speech against a potential use of its facilities for the promotion of extremist activity regardless of ideological causes.

In this context causes that could be considered extreme could be the expression of a wider range of views that try to incite hatred based on religious interpretations, ideology or believe; or if they promote discrimination on the grounds of political opinion, age, race, disability or gender for example.

This policy document also contains an appendix that references additional supporting documents to help you risk assess speakers/organisation that may use school facilities.

## 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” which are:

- Age;
- Disability;
- Gender reassignment;
- Marriage and civil partnership;
- Pregnancy and maternity;
- Race;
- Religion or belief;
- Sex; and
- 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>

### **3. Principles**

The Principles on which this policy is based are -

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

### **4. Electronic Communication**

Queen Victoria Primary School will 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.

The school has a right to exercise control over all activities on its IT facilities, including electronic communications associated with the name of the school and use of school equipment to access external resources. This includes the right to monitor the use of school resources.

### **5. Written and Printed Communication**

Queen Victoria 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 Queen Victoria Primary 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 school. In particular, access will be refused if it appears likely that the proposed activity would promote extremist ideological, political or religious beliefs.

## 7. Accountability

The statutory body of the school (Governing Board) has ultimate responsibility for this policy. The implementation of the policy is the responsibility of the Head Teacher.

Queen Victoria Primary School will use open source searches for 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 will have training on how to recognise a potential issue with the promotion of extremism in school.

At Queen Victoria Primary School staff will inform Mrs Cath Rindl, Head Teacher, if they have a concern.

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 **Lesley Ward, Safeguarding Governor**, of their concerns. If a concern needs to be escalated further, then Queen Victoria Primary School's Whistle Blowing Policy is to be used.

## 9. Training

The school will ensure that school staff and Governors receive appropriate training in the issues raised by this policy.

**Policy Implemented: June 2023**  
**Policy due for Review: June 2024**

## Appendix 1 - CHECKLIST FOR VISITING SPEAKERS

Please complete and return to school DSL

1.	Date of engagement	
2.	Name of the staff member responsible for booking visiting speaker	
3.	Name of visiting speaker	
4.	Visiting speaker contact details	
5.	Audience details	
6.	<p>Please confirm that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the <i>Visiting Speaker Policy</i> has been sent to the speaker</li> <li>the visiting speaker has been made aware of the school's obligations to safeguarding by referring them to the school's <i>Safeguarding Policy</i> on the website</li> </ul>	
<b>Checklist</b>		
7.	Please confirm that you have checked the visiting speaker basic biography, to include speaker's organisation and other affiliations	
8.	Have details of the presentation been provided?	
9.	Details of research undertaken on visiting speaker (e.g. check the internet for any recent published reports, statements or speeches made by the individual, any retractions or public apologies etc.)	
10.	Are you satisfied that the content seen in response to 9 above is not in any way contrary to the school's Equality Policy, the ethos of inclusion of the school, British values or any concern in relation to the prevent duty? If such concerns exist, refer the matter to the designed safeguarding lead (DSL).	Yes No (refer to DSL) (Please circle as appropriate)
11.	Name of person responsible for supervising the visiting speaker whilst they are on site.	

Signed: ..... Date: .....