

No Platform Policy

Responding to speakers promoting messages of hatred and intolerance.

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Signed by:





Contents

1. Core Values and how they link with this policy.....	3
2. Introduction.....	4
3. Aims of the policy.....	4
4. Definitions.....	4
5. Principles.....	5
6. Electronic Communication.....	6
7. Written and Printed Communication.....	6
8. Use of Buildings, Facilities and Property.....	6
9. Accountability.....	7
10. Reporting Concerns.....	7
11. Training.....	7
Appendix: Undesirable bookings guidance.....	8



1.0 Core Values and how they link with this policy

**think
differently**

The No Platform Policy has been written to help foster an environment across James Brindley Academy that is safe and transparent. The Policy makes it explicit that the Academy should not allow speakers or events that promote extreme ideological, religious or political views.

JBA Core Values	How this policy addresses these values
THRIVE – We create a positive environment where we thrive and succeed	The No Platform Policy provides a clear framework for a safe and non-discriminatory environment where no staff or pupils are exposed to extreme ideological, religious or political views.
HIGH ASPIRATIONS – We have high aspirations for ourselves and others	The No Platform Policy sets the highest standards for individuals within and visiting our organisation.
INCLUSION – We are inclusive in all we do and celebrate our differences	The No Platform Policy ensures that we do not allow discrimination of any kind.
NURTURE – We educate our young people and staff to nurture their emotional health and wellbeing	The No Platform Policy is designed to support our pupils to be exposed to wide variety of external speakers and environments, whilst ensuring they are not exposed to extreme ideological, religious or political views.
KEEP SAFE – We ensure that keeping safe and the safety of others is paramount	The No Platform Policy ensures that all pupils and staff are safe by leading a transparent and ethically driven organisation.



2.0 Introduction

[Keeping Children Safe in Education](#) (DfE,2021), provides an overview of our Academy’s duties regarding preventing the radicalisation of children and young people. It recognises that children and young people are vulnerable to extremist ideology and radicalisation and that protecting them from this risk should be part of our safeguarding approach.

The Government published an overview of the duties on schools in its policy paper [Preventing Extremism in The Education and Children's Services Sectors](#) (DfE, 2015) and [Prevent Duty guidance](#) (Gov.UK, 2019).

In recent times the Government has taken further action to strengthen the duties on schools, in particular with the [Counter-Terrorism and Security Act](#) (Gov.UK, 2015), which placed the Government’s ‘Prevent’ Counter-Extremism strategy on a statutory footing, and placed duties on schools to have due regard to the need to prevent children being drawn into terrorism.

The Government has also sought to strengthen a schools’ abilities to address a wide range of potential concerns relating to radicalisation, such as the potential for children to be groomed through several mediums and be drawn into extremist narratives.

3.0 Aims of Policy

This “No Platform Policy” aims to ensure that James Brindley Academy 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 policy provides guidelines on how schools can respond to extremist concerns and conduct research into the background of potential speakers.

4.0 Definitions

For the purpose of this policy:

4.1 The Terrorism Act 2003 makes it a criminal offence to:

4.1.1 Belong, or profess to belong, to a proscribed organisation (section 11 of the Act);



- 4.1.2 Invite support for a proscribed organisation (and the support is not, or is not restricted to the provision of money or other property) (section 12(1));
 - 4.1.3 Arrange, manage or assist in arranging or managing a meeting in the knowledge that the meeting is to support or further the activities of a proscribed organisation, or is to be addressed by a person who belongs or professes to belong to a proscribed organisation (section 12(2)); or to address a meeting if the purpose of the address is to encourage support for, or further the activities of, a proscribed organisation (section 12(3)); and
 - 4.1.4 Wear clothing or carry or display articles in public in such a way or in such circumstances as to arouse reasonable suspicion that an individual is a member or supporter of the proscribed organisation (section 13).
- 4.2 Section 38b of the Terrorism Act 2000 states that an individual has committed an offence if s/he has information which is known or believes might be of material assistance in preventing another person from committing an act of terrorism or securing apprehension, prosecution or conviction of another person for an offence involving the commission, preparation or instigation of an act of terrorism and s/he fails to disclose that information to the police as soon as is reasonably possible.
- 4.3 Extremism as defined in the Prevent and Counter Extremism Strategy by Government Is the: 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. Also included in the Government's definition of extremism are calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas.
- 4.4 Not every part of this definition must be satisfied for a particular individual or organisation to be regarded as extremist.

5.0 Principles

The principles on which this policy is based are:

- No person may use the facilities of James Brindley Academy to express or promote extremist ideological, religious or political views.
- No person may use the facilities of James Brindley Academy to express or promote discriminatory views in relation to the protected characteristics listed in the Equality Act 2010.



- James Brindley Academy will not allow the use of its facilities by any group or organisation that is proscribed by HM Government. For full list, see [Proscribed terrorist groups or organisations \(Gov, 2021\)](#).

6.0 Electronic Communication

James Brindley Academy 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.

7.0 Written and Printed Communication

James Brindley Academy 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.

8.0 Use of Buildings, Facilities and Property

In deciding whether to allow any group or organisation to make use of its buildings, facilities and property James Brindley Academy 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.

9.0 Accountability



The trustees of the Academy (Governing Trustees) have ultimate responsibility for this policy. The implementation of the policy is the responsibility of the Principal. James Brindley Academy will use 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.

10.0 Reporting Concerns

Academy 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 James Brindley Academy staff will inform their DSL if they have a concern and log their concern onto CPOMS. The DSL will inform the Senior DSL, Lisa Valentini (Assistant Principal and SPoC).

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 Principal of their concerns. This, in turn, will be shared with the safeguarding link trustee where appropriate. If a concern needs to be escalated further, then JBA's Whistle Blowing Policy is to be used.

In addition to in-school safeguarding mechanisms if someone is concerned about someone using school premises to promote extremism, then further advice can be sought by writing to noplatform@birmingham.gov.uk

11.0 Training

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

Appendix: Undesirable bookings guidance

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?

CHECK

Undertake due diligence to confirm what you've been told and find out more.

1. Run a check on the individual/organisation/speakers by:
 - Viewing their website, articles or speeches
 - Consider what other people are saying about them (articles/blogs etc.)
2. Ask for a reference from a venue provider previously used by the individual/organisation.
3. If the booking is for a charity, check the charity number of the organisation with the charity commission at the [charity.commission.gov.uk](https://www.charity.commission.gov.uk)

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**