



CORE
EDUCATION
TRUST

No Platform for Extremism Policy

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1. Introduction

This “No Platform Policy” aims to ensure that CORE Education Trust 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 is based on the [No Platform Policy of Birmingham City Council](#). This policy 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:

1. Extremism is the promotion or advancement of an ideology^[footnote 3] based on violence, hatred or intolerance^[footnote 4], that aims to:
2. negate or destroy the fundamental rights and freedoms^[footnote 5] of others; or
3. undermine, overturn or replace the UK’s system of liberal parliamentary democracy^[footnote 6] and democratic rights^[footnote 7]; or
4. intentionally create a permissive environment for others to achieve the results in (1) or (2).
5. The types of behaviour below are indicative of the kind of promotion or advancement which may be relevant to the definition, and are an important guide to its application. The further context below is also an essential part of the definition.

Behaviour that could constitute extremism

- **Aim 1 (negate or destroy fundamental rights and freedoms):** Behaviour against a group, or members of it, that seeks to negate or destroy their rights to live equally under the law and free of fear, threat, violence, and discrimination. Including:
 - Using, threatening, inciting, justifying, glorifying or excusing violence towards a group in order to dissuade them from using their legally defined rights and freedoms.
- **Aim 2 (undermine, overturn or replace liberal democracy):** Attempts to undermine, overturn, or replace the UK’s system of liberal parliamentary democracy and democratic rights. Including:
 - Advocating that the UK’s parliamentary democracy and democratic values and rights are not compatible with their ideology, and seeking to challenge, overthrow, or change our political system outside of lawful means.

- Using, threatening, inciting, justifying, glorifying or excusing violence towards citizens, in order to dissuade them from participating freely in the democratic process.
- Subverting the way public or state institutions exercise their powers, in order to further ideological goals, for example through entryism, or by misusing powers or encouraging others to do so.
- Using, threatening, inciting, justifying, glorifying or excusing violence towards public officials including our armed forces, police forces and members of local, devolved or national legislatures, in order to dissuade them from conducting their obligations freely and fearlessly, without external interference.
- Establishing parallel governance structures which, whether or not they have formal legal underpinning, seek to supersede the lawful powers of existing institutions of state.
- **Aim 3 (enabling the spread of extremism):** Intentionally creating a permissive environment for behaviour in aim 1 or aim 2. Including:
 - Providing an uncritical platform for individuals or representatives of groups or organisations that have demonstrated behaviour in either aim 1 or aim 2.
 - Facilitating activity of individuals or representatives of groups or organisations that have demonstrated behaviour in either aim 1 or aim 2, including through provision of endorsement, funding, or other forms of support.
 - The dissemination of extremist propaganda and narratives that call for behaviour in either aim 1 or aim 2.
 - Attempts to radicalise, indoctrinate and recruit others to an ideology based on violence, hatred or intolerance, including young people.
 - Consistent association with individuals or representatives of groups or organisations that have demonstrated behaviour in either aim 1 or aim 2 without providing critical challenge to their ideology or behaviour.
 - If any behaviour listed in aim 1 or aim 2 has occurred previously, a refusal by the individual, group or organisation that conducted the behaviour to rescind, repudiate or distance themselves from the behaviour.

(Updated March 2024: [New definition of extremism \(2024\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-definition-of-extremism-2024))

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

4. Electronic Communication

CORE Education Trust will not allow the use of the Trust or schools’ 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.
- 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

CORE Education Trust has the right to exercise control over the content of any written or printed material that identifies itself as associated with the schools. 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 schools, 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.
- 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 CORE Education Trust 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 Trust. 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 (The Trust) has ultimate responsibility for this policy. The implementation of the policy is the responsibility of the Headteacher or Head of School.

CORE Education Trust 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.

8. Reporting Concerns

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 CORE Education Trust staff and its schools will inform the DSL or Deputy DSL if they have a concern using the CPOMS system.

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 Safeguarding Trustee Justin Eniola on enquiry@core-education.co.uk of their concerns. If a concern needs to be escalated further, then CORE Education Trust's Whistle Blowing Policy is to be used.

9. Training

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