



Broadway Academy Trust Policies

Our Children. Our Community. Believe it can be done!

No Platform Policy

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Contents

	Section	Page
1	Introduction	2
2	Aims	2
3	Definitions	2
4	Principles	5
5	Electronic communication	5
6	Written and printed communications	5
7	Use of buildings, facilities and property	6
8	Accountability	6
9	Reporting concerns	6
10	Training	6

NO PLATFORM FOR EXTREMISM

Responding to speakers promoting messages of hatred and intolerance

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Schools, both state-funded and independent, have a range of duties in relation to safeguarding children from extremism. The statutory guidance [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#) is the key document for schools, colleges and their staff as part of the wider safeguarding system for children. It provides an overview of their duties regarding preventing the radicalisation of children.
- 1.2 It recognises that children are vulnerable to extremist ideology and radicalisation and that protecting children from this risk should be part of a schools' 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 on 1 September 2015 and Prevent Duty guidance April 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 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.
- 1.3 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

2. Aims

- 2.1 This "No Platform Policy" aims to ensure that Broadway Academy 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.
- 2.2 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.
- 2.3 This policy provides guidelines on how the Academy can respond to extremist concerns and conduct research into the background of potential speakers. It is based on the No Platform Policy of Birmingham City Council, which can be found at [BCC No Platform Policy | Birmingham City Council](#) and provides further information and guidelines on conducting research into the background of potential speakers.

3. Definitions

- 3.1 The Terrorism Act 2000 makes it a criminal offence to:

1. Belong, or profess to belong, to a proscribed organisation (section 11 of the Act)
 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))
 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))
 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)
- 3.2 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.
[Terrorism Act 2000](#)
- 3.3 The government's definition of extremism is "the promotion or advancement of an ideology based on violence, hatred or intolerance, that aims to:
1. negate or destroy the fundamental rights and freedoms[\[footnote 5\]](#) of others; or
 2. undermine, overturn or replace the UK's system of liberal parliamentary democracy[\[footnote 6\]](#) and democratic rights[\[footnote 7\]](#); or
 3. intentionally create a permissive environment for others to achieve the results in (1) or (2).
- 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.

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.

Further context is also an essential part of the definition and can be found here [New definition of extremism \(2024\) - GOV.UK](#)

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

3.5 The Equality Act 2010 protects nine individual characteristics:

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

All governors and employees of the Academy have a duty not to discriminate unlawfully against anyone based on any of these characteristics.

- 3.6 The Equality Act 2010 also requires the Academy to have due regard to:
- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Act;
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it; and
 - Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it

4. Principles

- 4.1 The principles on which this policy is based are:
- No person may use the facilities of Broadway Academy Trust to express or promote extremist ideological, religious or political views
 - No person may use the facilities of Broadway Academy Trust to express or promote discriminatory views in relation to the protected characteristics listed in the Equality Act 2010
 - Broadway Academy Trust will not allow the use of its facilities by any group or organisation that is proscribed by HM Government.

5. Electronic Communication

- 5.1 Broadway Academy Trust will not allow the use of the academy 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.
- 5.2 The Academy has a right to exercise control over all activities on its IT facilities, including electronic communications associated with the name of the Academy and use of academy equipment to access external resources. This includes the right to monitor the use of academy resources.

6. Written and Printed Communication

- 6.1 Broadway Academy Trust has the right to exercise control over the content of any written or printed material that identifies itself as associated with the Academy. 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 Academy, 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.

7. Use of Buildings, Facilities and Property

- 7.1 In deciding whether to allow any group or organisation to make use of its buildings, facilities and property Broadway Academy 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 Academy Trust. In particular, access will be refused if it appears likely that the proposed activity would promote extremist ideological, political or religious beliefs.

8. Accountability

- 8.1 The statutory body of the Academy (Governing Board) has ultimate responsibility for this policy. The implementation of the policy is the responsibility of the Head Teacher.
- 8.2 Broadway Academy 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.

9. Reporting Concerns

- 9.1 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.
- 9.2 Staff will inform the Deputy Headteacher (Designated Safeguarding Lead) if they have a concern. Any staff member who has raised a concern will be given feedback on the action taken.
- 9.3 If after reporting a concern staff feel that no satisfactory action has been taken, they should escalate the concern by informing the Headteacher and CEO of their concerns. If a concern needs to be escalated further, the Broadway Academy Trust Whistle Blowing Policy is to be used.
- 9.4 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

10. Training

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