



SUTTON COLDFIELD GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

NO PLATFORM FOR EXTREMISM POLICY

Date: June 2017
Revision Date: June 2020

NO PLATFORM FOR EXTREMISM

Responding to speakers promoting messages of hatred and intolerance

1. Introduction

This “No Platform Policy” aims to ensure that Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls 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**, which will be found at www.lscbbirmingham.org.uk/index.php/policies-and-procedures-pro. This provides further information and, in particular, Appendix 1 has guidelines on conducting research into the background of potential speakers. Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls will follow the guidelines within the policy of Birmingham City Council .

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;
- 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/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/322142/20140620-List_of_Proscribed_organisations_WEBSITE.pdf

3. Principles

The Principles on which this policy is based are -

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

4. Electronic Communication

Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls 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

Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls 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 Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls 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 Body) has ultimate responsibility for this policy. The implementation of the policy is the responsibility of the Head Teacher/Principal.

Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls 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

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 Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls staff will inform the Headteacher 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 the chair of the Governing Body of their concerns. If a concern needs to be escalated further then Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls Whistle Blowing Policy is to be used.

INITIAL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM

Name of policy/activity/project:

Behaviour for Learning Policy

Is this a new or an existing policy/activity/project?

Existing policy updated

Scope/timescales for project or activity (including review date):

Approved in June 2017. To be reviewed in June 2020.

Policy/project lead and Author of Equality Impact Assessment:

Mrs L. Long, Deputy Headteacher

Outline of main aims of this activity/policy/project:

To provide guidelines for all members of the school community about the school's expectations with regard to behaviour for learning

Who will benefit/be affected by this policy/activity?

All members of the school community

If an existing policy/activity, do you have any data of use by or impact on different groups which may raise concerns over an equality impact?

No concerns

Does the activity have the potential to impact differently on groups due to a protected characteristic (eg race/ethnicity, gender, transgender, disability, religion & belief, age, sexual orientation, maternity/paternity) for:

(a) Students and members of the community? (eg The Governing Body, students, contractors, visitors, hirers of the premises, agency staff, suppliers etc). Which groups are likely to be affected?

The provisions of the policy are equally applicable to all.

(b) Employees?

No

Does this activity make a positive contribution to the School's general or specific duties under the Equality Act 2010? If yes, please detail.

Yes – the Policy applies to all equally

Having reviewed the potential impact of the policy/activity listed above, **I believe a full impact assessment is required / NOT required** (delete as applicable with justification below)

Full impact assessment is not required

Justification: The policy is of equal benefit to all students, regardless of gender, gender reassignment race, religion, sexual orientation etc. in compliance with equalities legislation

Name: Mrs L. Long Date: June 2017

