



# No Platform Policy

Date of Approval:	19 <sup>th</sup> November 2025
Approved by:	Education Committee
Review date:	November 2026

## Policy Information:

Date of last review	November 2025	Review period	Annually
Date approved	19 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Approved by	Education Committee
Policy owner	CEO	Date of next review	November 2026

## Updates made since the last review:

Review date	Changes made	By whom
17/11/24	None	CEO
12/11/25	Clarification and inclusion of additional links to legislation relevant to this Policy with references to potential future updates, which the Trust will be conscious of. Clarity relating to Public Sector Equality Duty. Include a section relating to checks on effectiveness.	CEO

## 1. Introduction

This “No Platform” Policy aims to ensure that Forward 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 guided by Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSiE) 2025. KCSiE has been revised regularly and continues to be revised and improved on a regular basis. While there are only technical changes to KCSiE 2025, future iterations may reflect the progress into legislation of the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill, the emerging further learnings from the work of the recent Casey Audit and subsequent inquiries, including the Violence Against Women and Girls strategy and the interactions between these advances. The Trust will be mindful of these developments, in the context of the agreed No Platform Policy and will bring forward changes to Policy and operational requirements, in the light of any changes to Government Policy.

In recognising The Prevent Duty, from which all schools are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, in the exercise of their functions, to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism", the Trust understands the relevance of The Prevent Duty to this Policy and that it is seen as part of our wider safeguarding obligations.

Further information and resources are available on the [West Midlands Regional Safeguarding Procedures](#) website which covers the authorities under which the Trust works.

## 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”.

Radicalisation is "the process of a person legitimising support for, or use of, terrorist violence".

Terrorism is "an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people; causes serious damage to property; or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system".

Trustees are aware of their obligations under the Human Rights Act 1998, the Equality Act 2010 (including the Public Sector Equality Duty), and in the context of the Trust's local multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.

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
- Sexual orientation

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) places a general duty on schools to have, in the exercise of their functions, due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation (and any other conduct prohibited under the Equality Act), to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not. The Trust published a statement in February 2025 in respect of PSED which is accessible on the Trust's website: [FET-Public-Sector-Equality-Duty-Statement-Equality-Objectives.pdf](#)

The Terrorism Act 2000 establishes a list of "proscribed organisations". These are organisations that the Home Secretary believes are involved 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 on the HM Government website via [this link](#).

### 3. Principles

The principles on which this policy is based are –

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

#### 4. Electronic Communication

Our Trust will not allow the use of the 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 Trust 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 any Trust or school equipment to access external resources. This includes the right to monitor the use of resources.

#### 5. Written and Printed Communication

Our Trust has the right to exercise control over the content of any written or printed material that identifies itself as associated with the Trust. The Trust 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 it, 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.

This Policy is aligned to the Trust's requirements in respect of policy and training relating to online safety and Filtering & Monitoring requirements.

#### 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 our Trust will consider 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. Access will be refused if it appears likely that the proposed activity would promote extremist ideological, political, or religious beliefs.

When required, a risk assessment will be carried out by Headteachers and/or Trust leaders.

## 7. Accountability

The Trust Board has ultimate responsibility for this policy and monitoring is conducted via the Education Committee. The implementation of the policy is the responsibility of the Headteachers in each school and the Designated Safeguarding Lead in the Trust (who is the Director of Education). The Designated Safeguarding Lead takes lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection (including online safety and understanding the filtering and monitoring systems and processes in place) and the Trust Board has appointed a Trustee with responsibility for safeguarding.

The Trust will as it sees fit conduct 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

All staff have a responsibility to act on concerns. Staff will have training on how to recognise a potential issue with the promotion of extremism. See section 9 below.

In our Trust, our school staff will inform the Head Teacher if they have a concern. Trust Central Team employees should notify the Trust CEO in the first instance, if they have a concern. Any member of staff who has raised a concern will be given feedback on the action taken.

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If after reporting a concern at school a member of staff feels no satisfactory action has been taken, they should escalate the concern by informing the Chair of their Local Academy Council. In a similar way, Trust Central Team staff should escalate their concern to the Chair of the Board.

If a concern needs to be escalated further, then our Trust Whistleblowing Policy is to be used.

## 9. Training

The Trust will ensure that all staff and those responsible for governance within the Trust receive appropriate training in the issues raised by this policy. Training is conducted no less than annually, usually at the start of the academic year. Staff have access to additional training resources via Flick Learning and Trustees have access to training via TES Develop. Additional bite-sized training is given to staff and Trustees by either the Trust DSL or the Trust Safeguarding & Attendance Lead.

## 10. Monitoring the effectiveness of this Policy.

To assess the effectiveness of this policy, the Trust Executive Leaders will gather feedback from our school staff communities, to understand whether the staff understand and use the policy effectively. This can be done via School Review Meetings and Safeguarding Audits to assess whether the contents of this Policy have had any negative implications on wellbeing and workload for staff, as well as assessing understanding and effectiveness. This will also assess whether training has been sufficient.

As the Trust develops its approach to the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) the Trust's HR team have commenced an equality analysis, to assess whether this Policy has any positive or negative impacts on people with protected characteristics and consider any equality implications before and during policy development. This will be considered as part of future Policy reviews.

## 11. Links to Other Policies and relevant documents

Trust Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy  
Schools' Safeguarding and Child Protection Policies  
Whistleblowing Policy  
Prevent Risk Assessments  
Public Sector Equality Statement and Equality Objectives