



THE WISDOM ACADEMY

NO PLATFORM POLICY

The Wisdom Academy is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and nurturing educational environment for all pupils, staff, and families. The No Platform Policy establishes clear guidelines for external speakers, visitors, and content that may be presented within our school community.

We believe in fostering critical thinking and age-appropriate discussion while protecting our pupils from harmful ideologies and discriminatory viewpoints that could undermine their wellbeing, safety, or the school's inclusive values.

Scope

This policy applies to:

- All external speakers invited to address pupils, staff, or parents
- Educational materials and resources brought into the school
- Visiting performers, presenters, and workshop facilitators
- Parent/guardian presentations and contributions
- All school-sponsored events, both on and off-site

Principles

The Wisdom Academy will not provide a platform for individuals or groups who:

Promote Discrimination

- Advocate hatred, prejudice, or discrimination based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or any other protected characteristic (Equalities Act, 2010)
- Promote supremacist ideologies or extremist political movements
- Encourage bullying or harassment of any group

Threaten Child Safety

- Promote content inappropriate for primary-aged children (ages 4-11)
- Advocate for harmful practices toward children
- Undermine established safeguarding principles

Undermine Educational and School Values

- Promote anti-scientific conspiracy theories that contradict established curriculum
- Advocate for the denial of established historical facts
- Promote ideologies that fundamentally contradict the school's commitment to critical thinking and evidence-based learning

Decision-Making Process

Initial Assessment

All external speakers and content must be approved in advance by the Head Teacher or designated Senior Leadership Team member.

Review Panel

For potentially controversial speakers or content, a review panel consisting of:

- Head Teacher
- Deputy Head Teacher
- Proprietor
- Designated Safeguarding Lead

Consultation

Where appropriate, the school may consult with:

- Birmingham City Council education team
- PTA representatives

Alternative Approaches

When declining a platform request, the school will:

Provide Clear Reasoning

Explain the specific concerns that led to the decision, referencing this policy

Suggest Alternatives

Where possible, recommend alternative speakers or resources that address similar topics in an age-appropriate and inclusive manner

Educational Opportunities

Use declined requests as opportunities to discuss critical thinking, media literacy, and the importance of reliable sources with appropriate audiences

Appeals Process

Right of Appeal

Any decision made under this policy may be appealed within 14 days to the Proprietor in writing

Appeal Consideration

Appeals must be made in writing, stating specific grounds for reconsideration

Final Decision

The Proprietors decision on appeals is final

Monitoring and Review

Annual Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Headteacher and Proprietor

Incident Recording

All decisions made under this policy will be recorded and reviewed as part of the annual assessment

Related Policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Equality and Diversity Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- PSHE Policy

The Wisdom Academy is committed to promoting equality, diversity, and inclusion while maintaining the highest standards of safeguarding for all members of our school community.

Next review date: July 2026