



The Blue Coat School

POLICY FOR VISITING SPEAKERS

Approved by the Governors' Safeguarding, Health and Safety Committee

Signed: _____

(K Gilmore – Chair of Safeguarding, Health and Safety Committee)

Date: _____

This Policy for Visiting Speakers was devised by the Designated Safeguarding Lead and the Headmaster's PA in consultation with the Headmaster and the Head of Prep.

Date of Next Review: Trinity 2026

POLICY FOR VISITING SPEAKERS

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1

The School's Mission and Aims speaks of 'Nurturing a spirit of fun, adventure and curiosity in a supportive and caring Christian community'. In seeking to fulfil this mission, we often invite speakers from our wider community to give talks to the children or to engage with them in planned activities.

1.2

The *Prevent Duty Guidance: for England and Wales* (December 2023) states that there should be 'clear protocols for ensuring that any visiting speakers – whether invited by staff or by children themselves – are suitable and appropriately supervised'. 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (September 2024) also sets out an overview of duties regarding the prevention of radicalisation of children. It recognises that children are vulnerable to extremist ideology and radicalisation and that protecting children from this risk should be part of the safeguarding approach.

1.3

This Policy for Visiting Speakers applies to all age groups in the school including those in the Early Years Foundation Stage (Nursery and Reception).

1.4

This Policy takes account of the guidance set out in the 'No Platform' Policy of Birmingham City Council which provides advice on conducting research into the background of potential speakers, consulting other schools or organisations, using search engines, checking the websites of individuals/organisations including checks on websites being current, assessing the reliability of information found, checking on what others are saying about the individual/organisation, checking that organisations have a landline and business address, and identifying the risks to community cohesion.

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1

The purposes for inviting Visiting Speakers into our school community include:

- Enriching the experiences of the children both educationally and spiritually;
- Providing them with information from specialists;
- Broadening their understanding of world and global issues;
- Providing motivational inspiration.

2.2

Staff aim to ensure that presentations by Visiting Speakers are in keeping with the ethos and values of The Blue Coat School and also that their presentations uphold the principles of the fundamental British Values and those of the Equality Act 2010. The School will not allow the use of its facilities by any group or organisation proscribed by HM Government. A list of proscribed organisations can be found [HERE](#).

2.3

Proposed Visiting Speakers and enrichment activities are discussed by SLT at termly calendar meetings and also on a weekly basis by SLT.

3. PROTOCOLS FOR VISITING SPEAKERS

3.1

The protocols for Visiting Speakers are as follows:

- All requests for Visiting Speakers have to be approved by a member of the SLT
- All Visiting Speakers are given a named contact at the School

- The named contact must ensure that Appendix 1 is completed with all the relevant details before the visit
- The named contact must ensure that the Visiting Speaker has completed Appendix 2.
- The named contact must ensure that all the paperwork is given to the Headmaster's PA including Appendix 1 and Appendix 2.
- All Visiting Speakers are signed in at Reception and are given a visitor's badge which they are expected to wear during the visits.
- All Visiting Speakers are accompanied by a member of staff during their visit and they are not left unsupervised with pupils at any time.
- A list of all Visiting Speakers is maintained by the Headmaster's PA giving the name of the Visiting Speaker, the date of their visit, the pupil group addressed by the Visiting Speaker, the purpose of the visit, the named contact for the Visiting Speaker, the member of staff requesting the Visiting Speaker and any post-visit notes.
- All Visiting Speakers will be required to sign the 'Agreement and Guidelines for Visiting Speakers' form as acceptance of the School's Terms and Conditions (Appendix 2).

3.2

The School will not knowingly allow any Visiting Speakers who have demonstrated extreme views or actions to address the children or lead activities for them. The School will not knowingly allow Visiting Speakers or organisations to use the School premises if they have links to extreme groups or movements. Extremist views include the expression of racist or fascist views; inciting hatred based on religious interpretation, ideology or belief; promoting discrimination on the grounds of political opinion, age, colour, disability, ethnic or national origin, gender, marital status, race, religion or sexual orientation.

3.3

All staff have a responsibility to act on concerns about a Visiting Speaker and they should report these concerns to one of the Designated Safeguarding Leads, the Headmaster or the Chair of Governors.

4. RELATED POLICIES, MONITORING AND REVIEW

4.1

This Policy should be read in conjunction with other related whole school policies including the Code of Conduct and the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

4.2

This Policy will be reviewed annually, or before if necessary. It will be presented to the Governors' Safeguarding, Health and Safety Committee for approval. The minutes of this meeting will be presented to the Governors.

Appendix I



The Blue Coat School

Checklist for Named Contact for Visiting Speakers

The Blue Coat School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff, volunteers and Visiting Speakers to share this commitment.

Named Blue Coat School Contact	
Name of Visiting Speaker	
Organisation (if applicable)	
Date(s) of visit and time	
Online check of Visiting Speaker (where possible)	<i>Source of checks; date of checks; any key points</i>
Presentation summary (where possible)	<i>Summary content to be provided for file; date obtained</i>
Personnel supervising or accompanying Visiting Speaker during visit	
Date documentation filed with Headmaster's PA	<i>Date of sign off of all visit paperwork</i>
Any notes for future reference	

Signature of Named Contact:

Date:

Signature of approving SLT member:

Print name:

Appendix 2



The Blue Coat School

Agreement and Guidelines for Visiting Speakers

The Blue Coat School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff, volunteers and Visiting Speakers to share this commitment.

Name of Visiting Speaker	
Organisation (if applicable)	

The Visiting Speaker agrees to the following terms and conditions:

1. The presentation must be appropriate to the age of the children. Appropriate dress, language and behaviour are required at all times.
2. The presentation must uphold the principles of the ethos and values of The Blue Coat School and the fundamental British Values.
3. School staff have the right and responsibility to interrupt and/or stop the presentation if there is any violation of this agreement.

I have read these Guidelines and agree to abide by them.

Signature of Visiting Speaker:

Named Contact:

Signature of Named Contact:

Date: