



Policy for Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation

The purpose this policy

LMA is committed to providing a secure environment for students, where they feel safe and are kept safe. All staff at LMA recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, irrespective of the role they undertake and whether their role has direct contact or responsibility for students or not.

Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation is one part of our overall arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of all students in line with our statutory duties. This policy also draws upon the Government's 'Prevent' agenda and associated guidance document, 'Revised Prevent Duty Guidance', and the DfE Guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2021 - updated guidance'.

Who this policy applies to

This policy applies to:

- all staff, whether permanent, fixed term or temporary. This includes visiting, seconded and agency staff, contractors, agents, volunteers, interns and any other person working in any context within LMA;
- our suppliers; and
- all students.

Our ethos and practice

When operating this policy, LMA uses the following accepted Governmental definition of extremism which is:

'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; and/or calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas'.

Extremists aim to develop destructive relationships between different communities by promoting division, fear and mistrust of others based on ignorance or prejudice thereby limiting the life chances and damaging the wellbeing of young people exposed to such ideas.

Education is a powerful weapon against this, equipping young people with the knowledge, skills and critical thinking to challenge and debate in an informed way.

LMA does not tolerate extremist views of any kind whether from internal sources learners, staff or Executive Board, or external sources the broader community, external agencies or individuals. Students should be able to see LMA as a safe place where they can explore controversial issues safely and where our staff encourage and facilitate this in a respectful environment, effectively embedding fundamental British values into their teaching and learning practices. We have a duty to ensure this happens.

As an educational provider, we recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials

and influences can lead to serious detriments for students in numerous ways, including in their emotional and physical wellbeing, educational outcomes and life chances, and so should be addressed as a safeguarding concern as set out in this policy. We also recognise that if we fail to challenge extremist views we are failing to protect our students.

Therefore, at LMA we will provide a broad and balanced programme of study, delivered by skilled professionals, so that our students understand and become tolerant of difference and diversity. We will ensure that they feel valued and not marginalised.

LMA will also ensure that the training requirements of staff in relation to this Prevent policy are regularly reviewed and that appropriate training is provided to staff as required.

Any form of prejudice, discrimination or extremist views, including use of derogatory language, by students or staff will always be challenged and where appropriate dealt with in accordance with our Student Disciplinary Policy and the Staff Disciplinary and Dismissal Policy.

As part of wider safeguarding responsibilities, LMA staff will be alert to:

Disclosures by students of their exposure to the extremist actions, views or materials of others outside, such as in their homes, community groups or online, regardless of whether students have actively sought these out.

Graffiti symbols, writing or artwork promoting extremist messages or images.

Students accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites

Parental reports of unusual changes in behaviour, or relationships of their child, and requests for assistance

Reports from Partner colleges, local authority services, and police of issues affecting students and young people in other colleges or settings

Students voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives

Use of extremist or 'hate' terms to exclude others or incite violence

Intolerance of difference, whether secular or religious, or prejudice towards others based on characteristics including, but not limited to, gender, gender identity, disability, sexuality, race, colour or culture

Attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others

Anti-Western or Anti-British views

LMA will closely follow any locally agreed procedures as set out by the Local Authority and/or Liverpool Safeguarding Children's Board's agreed processes and criteria for safeguarding individuals vulnerable to extremism and radicalisation.

We will help support students who may be vulnerable to such influences as part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities and where we believe a student is being or is at immediate risk of being directly affected by extremist materials or influences we will ensure that the student is offered mentoring. Additionally in such instances LMA will seek external support from the Local Authority and/or local partnership structures working to prevent extremism.

By delivering a broad and balanced tutorial programme, augmented by the use of external sources where appropriate, we will strive to ensure that our students:

- Are able to identify and recognise extremism and radical views, ideas and materials.

Are able to recognise risks relating to extremism and radicalism.

Have the opportunity to develop the skills and resilience needed to help them manage any such risk themselves, where appropriate for their age and abilities.

Have the opportunity to develop the critical thinking skills needed to enable them to internally challenge extremist or radical ideas, and to be able to engage in informed debate.

Raising concerns

Students and staff who have any concerns regarding extremism and radicalisation will be encouraged to discuss such concerns with a member of the Safeguarding Team or Principal, in accordance with the Safeguarding Policy.

Review of this policy

If you have any comments or suggestions for this policy, please direct them to [*Hannah Talbot, Head of Student Experience*]

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