

VISITING SPEAKERS POLICY

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Policy Renewal: June 2025

Reviewed by the SLT MAT Board

“The Trustees of the Southport Learning Trust are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people at every opportunity and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment”

Contents

ITEM	TOPIC	PAGE
1	What is the Policy for?	2
2	Who is the Policy for?	2
3	Policy Procedure	3
4	Visiting Speakers Agreement Form	4

The vision of Southport Learning Trust is to create a world class education to enable every young person to reach their full potential, and in particular, their full academic potential.

The Visiting Speakers Policy provides the framework for procedures that all schools should follow when having an external speaker visit their school to speak to their students.

What is the Policy for?

Visiting speakers are very important to enrich the student's experience of school. Our responsibility is to ensure that any information the students receive is done within a safe environment and that care must be exercised to respect the diverse views and values of all students in our school community. Any information delivered to students at their school must be aligned to the ethos and values of the Trust, including British Values.

Who is the Policy for?

The policy is for all Trust schools and would include internal training sessions as well as speakers being invited to talk to students and/or parents.

Policy Procedure

1, The member of staff responsible for booking the speaker must ensure the Visiting Speaker Agreement Form is read fully, signed and dated. This needs to be completed and returned to the school before the presentation can take place. The form indicates a commitment to the following:

- The speaker must not spread intolerance in the community and thus aid in disrupting social and community harmony.
- The speaker must not incite hatred, violence or call for the breaking of the law.
- The speaker must not encourage or promote racist, homophobic, sexist, ageist or extremist views or promote any acts of terrorism.
- The speaker must seek to avoid insulting other faiths or groups within a framework of positive debate and challenge.
- The speaker must adhere to the school's equal opportunities and safeguarding policies.
- The speaker must send a copy of the presentation / speaking notes to the member of staff prior to the presentation taking place.

2. On the day of the visit the procedure should be as follows:

- The visitor should be met at reception, signed in and be issued with a visitors badge which they must wear at all times.
- A copy of the signed Visiting Speaker Agreement Form should be available at reception and double checked by the member of staff responsible for the visit.
- A staff member should remain with the visitor during the time they are in the school.
- During any presentation at least one member of school staff should be present at all times. If the content contravenes the terms and conditions of the Visiting Speakers Agreement form the session should be stopped.

- After the presentation, the speaker should be accompanied to reception in order to sign out and leave the visitors badge.
- If any concerns arising during the presentation, these should be reported immediately to a member of the school's safeguarding team.

Visiting Speakers Agreement Form

We are grateful to have a wide range of speakers willing to come into the school to share their thoughts, ideas and experiences with our students. As part of our safeguarding procedures, we ask all visitors to complete, sign and return the form below prior to any presentation being delivered in the school.

Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS:

Name of Visiting Speaker:

School Venue:

Name of Staff Member Organising the Visit:

Date of Visit:

As a visitor to the school I undertake to agree to the following terms and conditions:

1. The presentation will be age appropriate.
2. Appropriate language and behaviour will be used at all times.
3. The presentation will not spread intolerance in the community and thus aid in disrupting social and community harmony.
4. I will not incite hatred, violence or call for the breaking of the law.
5. I will not encourage or promote racist, homophobic, sexist, ageist or extremist views or promote any acts of terrorism.
6. I will seek to avoid insulting other faiths or groups, within a framework of positive debate and challenge.
7. I will not be seek to raise funds, without the prior written permission of the Headteacher
8. I will adhere to the school's equal opportunities and safeguarding policies.*
9. I will send a copy of the presentation / speaking notes to the appropriate member of staff at least one week prior to the presentation taking place.
10. I have read and understood the Visiting Speakers' Policy.*

Signature

Date

* All these policies can be found on the school's website.