



## Visitors Policy

- The SLT assure all visitors a warm, friendly and professional welcome to Madrassa Noorul Islam, whatever the purpose of their visit.
- The madrassah has a legal duty of care for the health, safety, security and wellbeing of all pupils and staff. This duty of care incorporates the duty to safeguard all pupils from subjection to any form of harm, abuse or nuisance. It is the responsibility of the SLT and senior staff to ensure that this duty is uncompromised at all times.
- In performing this duty, the SLT recognise that there can be no complacency where child protection and safeguarding procedures are concerned. The madrassah therefore requires that ALL VISITORS (without exception) comply with the following policy and procedures. Failure so to do may result in the visitor's escorted departure from the madrassah site.

### Policy Responsibility

The office staff is responsible for the implementation, coordination and review of this policy.

The office staff will also be responsible for liaising with the madrassah's designated Safeguarding Lead as appropriate. All breaches of this procedure must be reported to the Head teacher / Principal with immediate effect.

### Aim

To safeguard all children under the madrassah's responsibility both during madrassah hours and during out of madrassah hours' activities which are arranged by the madrassah. The ultimate aim is to ensure that pupils at Madrassa Noorul Islam can learn and enjoy extracurricular experiences in an environment where they are safe from harm.

### Objectives

To have in place a clear protocol and procedure for the admittance of external visitors to the madrassah which is understood by all staff, SLT, visitors and parents and conforms to child protection and safeguarding guidelines.

### Where and to whom the policy applies

The madrassah is deemed to have control and responsibility for its pupils anywhere on the madrassah sites (i.e. within the madrassah boundary fence), during normal madrassah hours, during after madrassah activities and on madrassah organised (and supervised) off-sites activities.

### The policy applies to:

- All staff employed by the madrassah
- All external visitors entering the madrassah site during the madrassah day or for after madrassah activities (including peripatetic tutors, coaches, and topic related visitors e.g. authors, journalists)
- All SLT of the madrassah
- All parents and volunteers
- All pupils
- Other Education related personnel
- Building & Maintenance and all other independent contractors visiting the madrassah premises
- Independent contractors who may transport students on minibuses or in taxis

### ***Protocol and Procedures***

#### **Visitors to the Madrassah**

All visitors to the madrassah are required to provide proof of identity at the time of their visit unless they are on the Approved Visitors List (see below.) They must follow the procedure below.

Madrassah do not have the power to request DBS checks and barred list checks, or ask to see DBS certificates, for visitors (for example children's relatives or other visitors attending a jalsa day). The Head teacher / Principal should use their professional judgment about the need to escort or supervise these visitors.

*(Keep Children Safe in Education (KCSIE, April 2014)*

- Once on site, all visitors must report to reception / office first.
- At reception, all visitors must state the purpose of their visit and who has invited them. They should be ready to produce formal identification upon request.
- Visitors will be asked to sign the Visitors Record Book which is kept in reception at all times making note of their name, organisation, who they are visiting, car registration and visitor time in and out.
- All visitors will be required to wear an identification badge – the badge must remain visible throughout their visit.
- Visitors must be given information about fire safety evacuation, safeguarding and child protection policies which they should read before entering the madrassah. They should be given the names of the Designated Safeguarding Leads and encouraged to report any incidents or concerns about the conduct of any adult on the madrassah site.
- Visitors will then be escorted to their point of contact OR their point of contact will be asked to come to reception to receive the visitor. The contact will then be responsible for them while they are on site. The visitor must not be allowed to move about the site unaccompanied unless they are registered on the Approved Visitor List.

#### **Visitors Departure from School**

On departing the madrassah, visitors MUST leave via reception and:

- Enter their departure time in the Visitors Record Book alongside their arrival entry
- Return the identification badge to reception

#### **Unknown/Uninvited Visitors to the School**

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Any visitor to the madrassah site who is not wearing an identity badge should be challenged politely to enquire who they are and their business on the madrassah site.

They should then be escorted to reception to sign the visitor's book and be issued with an identity badge. The procedures under "Visitors to the Madrassah" above will then apply

In the event that the visitor refuses to comply, they should be asked to leave the site immediately and the Head teacher / Principal should be informed promptly.

The Head teacher / Principal will consider the situation and decide if it is necessary to inform the police.

If an unknown/uninvited visitor becomes abusive or aggressive, they will be asked to leave the site immediately and warned that if they fail to leave the school grounds, police assistance will be called for.

### **SLT and Volunteers**

All SLT and parent helpers must complete a DBS check (if not already held) via the madrassah office.

New SLT will be made aware of this policy and with its procedures as part of their induction. This is the responsibility of the Head teacher/ Principal.

New volunteers will be asked to comply with this policy by the staff they first report to as well as the office staff when coming into madrassah for an activity or class supporting role.

### **Staff Development**

As part of their induction, new staff will be made conversant with this policy for External Visitors and asked to ensure compliance with its procedures at all times.

### **Approved Visitor List**

The madrassah will hold an approved visitor list for visitors who frequently visit the school site to undertake work within the school (including contractors and supply staff).

To qualify for this, list the visitor must have demonstrated, prior to the visit that:

- a. They have a current clear enhanced DBS check and a copy of this has been registered on the madrassah's Central Record AND
- b. A current clear DBS children's barred check has been undertaken AND
- c. Visitors on the Approved List MUST follow the same procedures on entry to the premises (i.e. come to reception and sign in the visitor's book).

*A copy of the approved visitor list will be kept behind reception at all times.*

### **Specific guidance for members of staff organising visits from external agencies:**

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The following procedures should be followed by all madrassah staff involved in organising visits from external agencies and speakers:

- Prior to the visit, discuss with the visitor how their session will add value to the pupils' learning experience.
- Ensure the visitor/external agency learning outcomes complement madrassah's planned programmes or schemes of work and are in line with madrassah policies.
- Be confident that the visitor/external agency has the required expertise in the subject they are delivering together with the necessary experience and skills to deliver sessions that are age appropriate and factually accurate.
- Discuss and agree the aims/desired learning outcomes of the session, professional boundaries, including responsibility for classroom discipline.
- Inform each visitor/external agency of all information to ensure the inclusion of all pupils. This may include the age and ratio of pupils, background, ethnicity and culture of pupils and special education needs (if applicable).
- Provide each visitor with a named school contact.
- Ensure the activity meets Health and Safety guidelines. If appropriate carry out a risk assessment of the activity/session.
- Staff must ensure such visitors are aware of the madrassah's safeguarding procedures and allow access to such policies as Child Protection, Safeguarding, and Risk Assessments.
- All staff must inform the relevant madrassah staff of the intended visit and remit of the visitor, e.g. headteacher/ principal, office staff.
- Ensure the relevant staff members, e.g. class teacher, is present during the session as they are responsible for class discipline, monitoring and evaluation.
- Ensure the pupils are given time to reflect on what they have learned.

The madrassah contact will be responsible for ensuring the visitor/external agency is thanked for their contribution and, where applicable, ensure the treasurer is aware that fees are to be paid. A VAT invoice will need to be provided for payment to be made (if applicable)

**External speaker: anyone other than a current pupil or current staff member who may be invited to give a sermon, expound on a piece of religious text, or political viewpoint, etc**

- External speakers and visitors are subject to web and other security checks as standard practice by the Madrassah.
- External speakers and visitors are permitted to visit the Madrassah but must ensure that they also comply with UK legislation. This means speakers and visitors must ensure that in the views or ideas they put forward -or in the manner in which they express these views or ideas- they do not infringe the rights of others, or discriminate against them. Their speech or the manner of its expression must not constitute a criminal offence, a threat to public order, a threat to the health and safety of individuals, incite others to commit criminal acts, or be contrary to the civil and human rights of individuals. It is a criminal offence to 'stir up hatred' against other people on religious or racial grounds.

Therefore, in order to protect staff and pupils of all backgrounds, the Madrassah requires that all external speakers and visitors to the Madrassah abide by:

**All safeguarding and H&S policies.**

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External speakers and external visitors must take great care to ensure they do not create an intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating, or offensive environment for others at the Madrassah.

Therefore, all speakers and visitors must ensure that their words or actions will not give rise to an environment in which people will experience - or could reasonably fear - harassment, intimidation, isolation, verbal abuse or violence, particularly because of their:

- Ethnicity or race
- Religion and belief- including lack of religion and belief
- Sexuality- heterosexual, bisexual, lesbian, gay
- Gender
- Disability
- Trans status
- Age
- Civil partnership and marriage
- Pregnancy and maternity.

If an external speaker or external visitor contravenes this guidance, the Madrassah reserves the right to immediately shut down an event and to ban that speaker or visitor from the site.

### **Religious hatred**

Religious hatred offences (introduced into the Public Order Act 1986 by the Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006) occur where the following actions are committed with the intention to stir up religious hatred:

- The use of threatening words or behaviour;
- The display of threatening written material;
- The publication or distribution of written material which is threatening;
- The public performance of a play involving threatening words or behaviour;
- The distribution or showing or playing of a recording of visual images or sounds which are threatening
- The broadcasting of a programme which includes threatening visual images or sounds;

**The possession of written material, the recording of visual images or sounds, which are threatening, with a view to their display, distribution, publication, playing or broadcasting.**

All speakers will be made aware of their responsibility to abide by the law, and the madrassah's various policies, including that:

- They must not incite hatred, violence or call for the breaking of the law
- They are not permitted to encourage, glorify or promote any acts of terrorism including individuals, groups or organisations that support such act
- They must not spread extremism, radicalisation, hatred or intolerance in the madrassah community and thus aid in disrupting social and community harmony.

### **Linked policies**

This policy and procedures should be read in conjunction with other related madrassah policies, including:

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Fire Safety Policy