

# Kingsbrook School

*'A unique service for unique young people'*  
**Editing of Text, Film and Guest Speakers for  
Resource and Learning Purposes Procedure**

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**Kingsbrook School**  
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## **Editing of Text, Film and use of Guest Speakers for Resource and Learning Purposes**

At Kingsbrook School it is acknowledged that the editing of reading text, film and the invitation of guest speakers requires careful consideration to ensure materials used for resource purposes and the content discussed and portrayed to students by guest speakers will enhance the learning experience for our students. However, this requires careful consideration and must take into account the following:

- The Chronological Age of the Student/s
- The Emotional Age of the Student/s
- Ensuring the editing of the film/text does not put the student at a learning disadvantage
- Ensuring the text, film or guest speaker does not promote prejudice or preference to a particular race, religion or political view
- Content should promote Fundamental British Values.
- If the content does (for learning purposes) appear to 'side' with a particular race, religion or political view then this must be addressed and a balanced view must be expressed by the teacher and every effort made to provide a counter view.

To ensure the above; Kingsbrook School will ensure as per the requirements of the Independent School Standards:

- All text and film resources will be edited to ensure the text read or film viewed is within the student's chronological age as in age restricted films will be adhered to.
- Consideration will also be given to a student's emotional age and learning difficulty and such texts or films available to a student based upon their chronological age will be reconsidered if their emotional age and/or learning difficulty means a student is functioning below and therefore their understanding is less than their chronological age. Each teacher and the Head of School will discuss this and a decision will be made based upon the content and each individual student.
- If text or film is edited Kingsbrook will ensure this does not place a student at a learning disadvantage. This extends to the editing/alteration of past exam papers that may potentially place a student's ability to pass an exam through restricting question choice, based upon content.

- Promotion of partisan political views is forbidden and is not part of the curriculum and delivery when covering aspects of politics. Kingsbrook School ensures the following does not take place:
- A superficial treatment of the subject matter, typified by portraying factual or philosophical premises as being self-evident, with insufficient explanation and without any indication that they may be the subject of legitimate controversy.
- The misleading use of data; misinterpretations and half-truths.
- Deployment of material in such a way as to prevent students meaningfully testing veracity and forming an independent understanding as to how reliable it is.
- The exaltation of protagonists and their motives coupled with the demonisation of opponents and their motives.
- Resources such as books, film or guest speakers will endeavour to represent a range of views and will not be exclusive to particular political ideologies.
- It is acknowledged that teaching may involve potentially controversial or difficult subjects, which may present opinions which are not compatible with the principles as per the SMSC standard. However, if deemed useful to illustrate the full range of opinion on a matter then consideration of their use will be made. Teaching staff will endeavour to provide a balanced opinion in such cases.

Within teaching, whether a particular view is advocated as being the 'right' view will be adopted if certain presupposed consequences follow.

Every effort will be made to prevent a negative outcome of views and opinions based upon text or film read/viewed or negative outcome of views and opinions from discussion and content delivery by a guest speaker.

### **Promotional Literature upon Events (Not Part of the Curriculum)**

Promotional literature that is not part of the curriculum, which, students might see and as a result wish to attend, will be carefully considered. Consideration will be given to political bias and the content and quantity of promotional material which addresses political issues. Any imbalances of such events or promotional material steps will be taken to address the imbalances that may arise from its terms or the predominance of material reflecting a particular view upon a political issue.

## Class Discussions and Guest Speakers

- Before guest speakers are invited to Kingsbrook School they will be required to fulfil a vetting criteria and upon arrangements; the guest speaker will be sent a copy of Kingsbrook's Editing of Text, Film and Guest Speakers for Resource and Learning Purposes Procedure and Kingsbrook School's Equality and Diversity Procedure to ensure the expectations of views and opinion and therefore content are made aware to the guest speaker prior to the event.
- Either via telephone or email communication, the Head of School will ascertain from the guest speaker, the content of the discussion. Notes or the form of a script will be requested prior to the event.
- Any content deemed inappropriate whether in terms of partisan viewpoints or anything that is not in line with the Kingsbrook's Equality and Diversity procedure; this will be communicated to the guest speaker and amendments will be requested before the event.
- An amended copy of the content will be requested and if the Head of School is satisfied that the content does not demonstrate partisan views and the content does not violate Kingsbrook School's Equality and Diversity Procedure; then final arrangements will be made for the guest speaker to visit.
- Any guest speaker to the school will be asked to present ID, if owned, to view a current enhanced DBS. Guest speakers will be accompanied by Kingsbrook staff at all times and will not ever be left unattended with students.
- Kingsbrook School will ensure steps will be taken to ensure that when political issues are discussed or arise; students will be made aware that that there are usually countervailing views and a balance is struck between the opinions and beliefs discussed. This will apply to lesson content, extra-curricular activities, debates and through the use of external speakers.
- A fair, dispassionate and therefore balanced view will be promoted and a common sense approach will be taken to ensure this. Kingsbrook School will take a mechanistic approach to securing balance and will evidence demonstration of steps taken to ensure a balance has been sought, even if this is over a period of time.
- If a guest speaker has expressed a partisan political view on a subject consideration will be given as to whether it is appropriate to challenge the views of the guest speaker without delay. If it is not deemed appropriate to do so at the time, then Kingsbrook School will endeavour to arrange for another guest speaker, at a later date, to visit the school to address opposing views on the subject to students in the course of subsequent teaching.

- Kingsbrook School will demonstrate what steps had been taken to offer students a fair and dispassionate opportunity to learn about alternative viewpoints.