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2021-22 Academic Year

LSME Fair Use of Prayer Room Policy

LSME has a room designated as a Prayer Room that offers a quiet space for spiritual/religious activities as well as a space for peace and reflection for all staff, learners, and visitors of the institution. This policy covers the fair use of this Prayer room facility and its associated prayer activities.

Scope

The policy covers the Prayer Room facilities within the college's premises and all the associated activities that take place within it. It is intended for all staff, students and visitors of the institution who may require a quiet time for reflection and prayers during their studies in the College.

This policy must be read in conjunction with the:

- Prevent Duty Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Staff Disciplinary Policy
- Equality and Diversity Policy
- Code of Practice for Arrangement and Conduct of Events

Legislation

This policy complements the college approach to the enforcement of the Equality Act 2010, the Terrorism Act 2000, and the Counter-Terrorism and Security Bill 2015 which places a statutory duty on all alternative providers of higher education to prevent individuals from being drawn to extremism.

Responsibilities

The Student Welfare and Pastoral Care Committee has responsibility for the implementation of the policy and its dissemination for all staff and students.

Procedures

1. All users of the Prayer Rooms must be sensitive to others accessing the facilities at all times; the facilities are for all to share.
2. The rooms are available for all faith groups to access and should be used fairly by all who want to access them.
3. Any learner or member of staff found to be disseminating or distributing offensive material within the prayer room will be disciplined using the relevant disciplinary policy.
4. Posters, icons and leaflets are not permitted in the prayer rooms without permission. Any material displayed without permission from the Students Welfare and Pastoral Care Committee will be removed.
5. Candles are not to be used within the Prayer Rooms due to the inherent risk of fire.
6. No food or drinks are to be consumed within the Prayer Room.
7. Noise levels should be kept to a minimum, and the room should not be used for group gatherings or talks, including religious group discussions.
8. The room could be used for quiet studies only if there is no religion-related activity going on.
9. Users are asked to keep the room as tidy as possible when in use, to leave the room as they found it to return any furniture to its original location, and make sure it is clean and tidy when they leave.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Regular checks of the Prayer rooms will be carried out by the cleaning staff. Posters or leaflets that have not had permission to be displayed will be removed.

Concerns in relation to radicalisation on college premises and the prayer rooms should be raised according to the college's safeguarding procedures and reported to Chanel Police Officers by the Safeguarding leads.

Review

The Student Welfare and Pastoral Care Committee will review this policy annually. All queries should be directed to the Committee on studentsupport@lsme.ac.uk.



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