Anti-Semitism Statement
Academic Year 2026/2027

The London School of Science and Technology ("the School") strives to provide a safe place for its academic community, free from hateful, harassing, or discriminatory behaviour. This commitment is enshrined within the School's Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Policy, the Prevention of Bullying, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy, and its procedures for combating bullying and harassment, which ensure that all individuals with whom the School deals are treated with dignity and respect.

As part of this commitment, the School openly condemns anti-Semitism and will robustly investigate antisemitic incidents, whilst providing support to anyone affected by racist abuse.

The School's governing body has resolved to adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's (IHRA) working definition on anti-Semitism[1], adopted by the United Kingdom in 2016, in determining whether anti-Semitic behaviour has occurred:

> *"Anti-Semitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of anti-Semitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities."*

Manifestations might include the targeting of the state of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity. However, criticism of Israel similar to that levelled against any other country cannot be regarded as antisemitic. Anti-Semitism frequently charges Jews with conspiring to harm humanity, and it is often used to blame Jews for "why things go wrong." It is expressed in speech, writing, visual forms and action, and employs sinister stereotypes and negative character traits.

Contemporary examples of anti-Semitism in public life, the media, schools, the workplace, and in the religious sphere could, taking into account the overall context, include, but are not limited to:

- Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.
- Making mendacious, dehumanising, demonising, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective — such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions.
- Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews.

[1] https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/resources/working-definitions-charters/working-definition-antisemitism

- Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g., gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust).

- Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust.

- Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.

- Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavour.

- Applying double standards by requiring of it a behaviour not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation.

- Using the symbols and images associated with classic anti-Semitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterise Israel or Israelis.

- Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.

- Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel.

The School further acknowledges that:

i. Antisemitic acts are criminal when they are so defined by law (for example, denial of the Holocaust or distribution of anti-Semitic materials in some countries).

ii. Criminal acts are anti-Semitic when the targets of attacks, whether they are people or property – such as buildings, schools, places of worship and cemeteries – are selected because they are, or are perceived to be, Jewish or linked to Jews.

iii. Anti-Semitic discrimination is the denial to Jews of opportunities or services available to others and is illegal under the Equality Act (2010).

Nothing in this commitment is intended to mitigate the School's statutory duty to uphold the principles of academic freedom and freedom of speech. The School is guided by the Home Affairs Select Committee's report, *Anti-Semitism in the UK; (2016 -17)*[2] which applies the following clarification to ensure that freedom of speech is maintained in the context of discourse about Israel and Palestine, without allowing anti-Semitism to permeate any debate:

- *"It is not antisemitic to criticise the Government of Israel, without additional evidence to suggest antisemitic intent."*

[2] https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201617/cmselect/cmhaff/136/136.pdf

- *"It is not antisemitic to hold the Israeli Government to the same standards as other liberal democracies, or to take a particular interest in the Israeli Government's policies or actions, without additional evidence to suggest antisemitic intent."*

Reporting Instances of Anti-Semitic Behaviour or Racist Abuse

Students can report anti-Semitic behaviour to any member of academic staff or to their Personal Academic Tutor, who will escalate the matter. Alternatively, students may use the Student Complaints Procedures to raise the issue.

Members of staff should, in the first instance speak to their line manager, or head of department or Dean, who will consult with LSST's HR Department. Where the issue concerns the line manager or head of department or Dean, HR should be contacted directly.

Severe or systematic abuses may also be raised through using the channels described in LSST's Whistleblowing Policy.

The School takes a zero-tolerance stance on anti-Semitic behaviour and anti-Jewish racism. Those who engage in such conduct will be in breach of the School's Codes of Conduct and will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from a study programme or position of employment, and exclusion from the School's premises.

Approval

This Statement has been approved by the Board of Governors.

Ali Jafar Zaidi
Chief Executive Officer of the London School of Science and Technology

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