

State of London Debate 2026 admissions policy

Key information

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1. Conditions of entry

As part of the State of London Debate 2026 health and safety arrangements, admission for all visitors is conditional upon agreeing to go through the search procedures and complying with all security arrangements and instructions as detailed below. The Greater London Authority (GLA) reserves the right to refuse admission.

Before going through the venue's search point, please familiarise yourself with this admissions policy.

2. Search procedures

All visitors wishing to enter the State of London Debate 2026, will be subject to a photo ID check and security search of any bags or carried items, including folding bicycles. Search arches will be present on the front doors of the venue and staff will also be searching all baggage. Any prohibited items will be confiscated by their search teams and handed in. The search aims to ensure that no prohibited items (please refer to the list displayed at the venue) are either deliberately or accidentally brought into the building.

Please note that visitors may also be required to place their outer garments, hats, shoes and belts through the x-ray scanner, and laptop computers will need to be removed from their cases. Wheelchairs will also be subject to search. The scanning equipment will not harm electronic media devices and it is photographic film safe up to ISO1600 (33 din).

It will assist the search process if people are ready to remove metal objects carried on their person (except for very small items of jewellery) and place them in the trays provided.

At the discretion of the Security Officer, visitors found in possession of prohibited items may be refused entry to the building or will only be admitted if they are prepared to surrender the items to the venue security, for which a receipt will be issued. Any retained items can be collected from the venue security, on production of the receipt on departure from the building, except for certain prohibited items which are considered likely to pose safety risks to staff and the public which will be passed to the police.

At the discretion of the Security Officer, visitors deliberately trying to conceal prohibited items or being obstructive may be refused entry and reported to the police.

3. Visitor's behaviour and conduct

Visitors to the State of London Debate 2026 are respectfully requested to behave in a considerate and courteous manner at all times and comply with official instructions given by Security Officers and GLA Staff. Visitors must not disrupt or interfere with the activities or provoke with excessive heckling that are taking place at the State of London Debate 2026.

The intimidation of Security Officers or other members of GLA Staff or public will not be tolerated and neither will assault on staff, aggressive behaviour, offensive, threatening or abusive language or gestures.

Anyone displaying these behaviours or not complying with official instructions will be required to leave the State of London Debate 2026 immediately and may at the discretion of the Security Officer be refused from future entry.

Visitors are advised not to make comments to security staff that could be interpreted as a potential threat; such actions could result in the police being called.

4. Children

Young people under the age of 16 will not be permitted access to the building unless accompanied by an appropriate adult or by prior arrangement. Security staff may ask for proof of age if the visitor does not look 16 years of age or over.

5. Animals

The only animals permitted access to the State of London Debate 2026 are assistance animals and police search dogs with appropriate official identification.

6. Photography and filming

The use of camera or audio-video recording equipment in such a way as to cause alarm, distress or harassment of staff or visitors or using it in such a way that causes interference with their duties or visit is prohibited.??

Security operations or equipment should not be filmed or photographed.

No commercial photography or filming at the State of London Debate 2026 is permitted without prior written agreement from the Greater London Authority.

7. CCTV

For everyone's security and safety, monitored and recorded CCTV is in operation at the State of London Debate 2026.

8. Changes to security arrangements

Please note in the interests of everyone's health and safety, security arrangements are subject to no notice extension and change.

9. Prohibited items

To help protect the safety and welfare of both visitors and staff, the following is a non-exclusive list of items that are prohibited from being brought into the State of London Debate 2026:

- Bladed items, including pen knives, fixed bladed knives and scalpels
- Offensives weapons, such as tasers
- Imitation or toy weapons, including toy hand grenades and guns
- Items that could be readily converted into weapons

- Component parts of weapons
- Flares, fireworks or other pyrotechnics
- Candles with naked flames
- Party poppers, party canons and confetti
- Helium filled balloons
- Gas canisters
- Strobe lights, high intensity torches and lasers
- Hazardous materials, such as radioactive items, CS gas, pepper spray, glue, acids and alkalis
- Spray paints or cans of paint
- Powders that are not personal prescription medicines or for cosmetic purposes
- Illegal drugs
- Opened bottles or cans of alcohol
- Pointed scissors or pointed tweezers
- Knitting needles
- Syringes (unless required for personal medical use)
- Placards, banners, flags, leaflets and flyers
- Mobile phone jamming devices
- Masks (other than those designed for COVID prevention)

- Items that could cause loud audible disruption, such as whistles, megaphones, sirens, air horns, large radios, cd players and speakers
- Covert surveillance and recording equipment
- Climbing and abseiling equipment
- Tools, such as pliers, screwdrivers, wire cutters, padlocks, chains or saws
- Any items considered to be suspicious or unacceptable by security staff that the owner cannot provide a reasonable explanation for possessing
- Items likely to cause offence

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