PREVENTION OF EXTREMISM AND RADICALISATION POLICY 2024

Reviewed & recommended by Curriculum & Pastoral Committee October 2024

To be approved at Full Governors in December 2024

We are committed to providing a secure environment for pupils, where children feel safe and are kept safe. All adults in our school recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility irrespective of the role they undertake or whether their role has direct contact or responsibility for children or not.

This policy is one element within our overall school arrangements to Safeguard and Promote the Welfare of all Children in line with our statutory duties set out at s175 of the Education Act 2002 (s157 of the Education Act 2002.)

School Ethos and Practice

When operating this policy we use the following accepted Governmental definition of extremism which is:

'Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs; and/or calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas'.

The full Government Prevent Strategy can be viewed at:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/97976/prevent-strategy-review.pdf

Full revised Prevent Duty Guidance for Education sector can be found here:
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance

As a school we recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes for children and so should be addressed as a safeguarding concern as set out in this policy. We also recognise that if we fail to challenge extremist views, we are failing to protect our pupils. We therefore will provide a broad and balanced curriculum so that our pupils are enriched, understand and become tolerant of difference and diversity and also to ensure that they thrive, feel valued and not marginalized.

We are also aware that young people can be exposed to extremist influences or prejudiced views from an early age which emanate from a variety of sources and media, including via the internet, and at times pupils may themselves reflect or display views that may be discriminatory, prejudiced or extremist, including using derogatory language. Any prejudice, discrimination or extremist views, including derogatory language, displayed by pupils or staff will always be challenged and where appropriate dealt with in line with our Pastoral and Behaviour Policy for pupils.

As part of wider safeguarding responsibilities school staff will be alert to:

- Disclosures by pupils of their exposure to the extremist actions, views or materials of others outside of school, such as in their homes or community group especially where pupils have not actively sought these out.

- Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images;

- Pupils accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites;

- Parental reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance;
- Network schools, local authority services, and police reports of issues affecting pupils in other schools or settings;
- Pupils voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives;
- Use of extremist or 'hate' terms to exclude others or incite violence;
- Intolerance of difference, whether secular or religious or, in line with our Equal Opportunities Policy;
- Views based on, but not exclusive to, gender, disability, homophobia, race, colour or culture;
- Attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others;
- Anti-Western or Anti-British views.

Our School

We promote the values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs. We teach and encourage pupils to respect one another and to respect and tolerate difference, especially those of a different faith or no faith. It is indeed our most fundamental responsibility to keep our pupils safe and prepare them for life in modern multi-cultural Britain and globally.

We closely follow any locally agreed procedure as set out by the Local Authority and/or our Safeguarding Children Partnership's agreed processes and criteria for safeguarding individuals vulnerable to extremism and radicalisation.

When a member of staff has concerns about a child they must report this to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), Senior Deputy Headteacher and in their absence, Headteacher or Deputy DSL.

Equally, if a member of staff has a concern about the actions or views of a colleague, they should refer their concern to the Safeguarding Lead. If the Safeguarding Lead is the subject of the concern, the Chair of Governors should be informed. In the event that concerns are about a person becoming radicalised consideration will be given to using the Channel process. Checking with the safeguarding lead will utilise existing internal safeguarding processes.

Channel is a bespoke panel which meets to address issues of individuals who have been identified as being at risk of radicalisation but have not committed any terrorism offence.

The Channel Panel meets when a referral has been made and there are significant safeguarding risks which require support. In the latter case, completion of the online MARF (Multi Agency Referral Form) is required. The link to do this is: https://wirral-self.achieveservice.com/service/Children_and_families_request_for_support_form

Referrals can be made by anyone and advice can be sought from the Channel Police Practitioner at any stage i.e. at the initial noting of concerns, during the information gathering process when the safeguarding lead has been informed and where it is deemed that concerns remain.

PREVENT CONTACTS (L.A. Co-ordinator)

Alison Burnett - 07394559106
E-mail: alison.burnett@liverpool.gov.uk

CHANNEL

The Local Authority Channel Co-ordinator works with the Police, local authority, education establishments, health and other public sector agencies to assess and co-ordinate the Channel delivery model and this includes:* Targeted support for referred cases * Advice and Guidance *Channel and Prevent duty responsibilities * Training & Awareness.
For queries contact
channelreferrals@liverpool.gov.uk

PREVENT TEAM (Merseyside Police)
0151 777 8125 / E-mail: prevent@merseysidepolice.uk / Twitter: @merpolprevent

Child Protection

Our Safeguarding Policy for the full procedural framework on our Child Protection duties. Staff at our school will be alert to the fact that whilst Extremism and Radicalisation is broadly a safeguarding issue there may be some instances where a child or children may be at direct risk of harm or neglect. Therefore all adults working at our school (including visiting staff, volunteers' contractors, and students on placement) are required to report instances where they believe a child may be at risk of harm or neglect to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead
The Designated Safeguarding Lead is: Senior Deputy Headteacher
The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is: Deputy Heads and Headteacher

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is the focus person for school staff, and others, who may have concerns about an individual child's safety or well-being and is the first point of contact for external agencies. The role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead will include the responsibilities of the PREVENT duty.

Role of Governing Body

The Governing Body will undertake appropriate training to ensure that they are clear about their role and the parameters of their responsibilities as Governors, including their statutory safeguarding duties. The Governing Body will support the ethos and values of our school and will support the school in tackling extremism and radicalisation.

Governors will review this policy annually and may amend and adopt it outside of this timeframe in accordance with any new legislation or guidance or in response to any quality assurance recommendations pertaining to the delivery of this policy and the overall safeguarding arrangements made.

Training

Whole school in-service training on Safeguarding and Child Protection will be organised for staff and governors at least every three years and will comply with the prevailing arrangements agreed by the Local Authority and the Safeguarding Children Partnership and will, in part, include training on extremism and radicalisation and its safeguarding implications.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead will attend training courses as necessary and the appropriate inter-agency training organised by the Safeguarding Children Partnership at least every two years; again,

this will include training on extremism and radicalisation and its safeguarding implications. The DSL will roll out the Prevent update to school staff. To access the Prevent 7-minute Briefing, click here.