



**GREAT FINBOROUGH
CHURCH PRIMARY**

Preventing Radicalisation & Extremism Policy

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GREAT FINBOROUGH CHURCH PRIMARY

PREVENTING RADICALISATION & EXTREMISM POLICY

Background

Over the last few years, global events have led to a growth of extremist viewpoints, including advocacy of violent extremism. We recognise that our school has an important part to play in both educating children and young people about extremism and recognising when pupils start to become radicalised. In March 2015, new statutory duties were placed on schools by the Counter Terrorism and Security Act (2015) which means they must work to prevent children being drawn into extremism. We consider protecting children from extremism is one aspect of the Safeguarding duty for our school.

Ethos

At Great Finborough CEVC Primary we ensure that through our school vision, values, rules, diverse curriculum and teaching we promote tolerance and respect for all cultures, faiths and lifestyles. The governing body also ensures that this ethos is reflected and implemented effectively in school policy and practice and that there are effective risk assessments in place to safeguard and promote students' welfare. We have a duty to prepare our children for life in modern Britain and to keep them safe.

Statutory Duties

The duty to prevent children and young people being radicalised is set out in the following documents.

- [‘Counter Terrorism and Security Act’](#) (2015)
- [‘Keeping Children Safe in Education’](#) DfE (2015)
- [‘Prevent Duty Guidance’](#) DfE (2015)
- [‘Working Together to Safeguard Children’](#) DfE (2015)

The DfE has also issued non-statutory advice about promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools: [‘Departmental advice for maintained schools’](#) DfE (2014)

Definitions

Extremism is defined in the 2011 Prevent strategy as 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. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas.

Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

British Values are democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Roles and Responsibilities

Role of the Governing Body

It is the role of the governing body to ensure that the school meets its statutory duties with regard to preventing radicalisation.

The governing body has a nominated person who will liaise with the headteacher and other staff about issues to do with protecting children from radicalisation.

Role of the Headteacher

It is the role of the headteacher to:

- ensure that the school and its staff respond to preventing radicalisation on a day-to-day basis,
- ensure that the school's curriculum addresses the issues involved in radicalisation
- ensure that staff conduct is consistent with preventing radicalisation

Role of Designated Safeguarding Lead

It is the role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead to:

- ensure that staff understand the issues of radicalisation, are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns
- receive safeguarding concerns about children and young people who may be vulnerable to the risk of radicalisation or are showing signs of radicalisation
- make referrals to appropriate agencies with regard to concerns about radicalisation
- liaise with partners, including the local authority and the police
- report to the governing body on these matters

Role of staff

It is the role of staff to understand the issues of radicalisation, to be able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns.

Curriculum

We are committed to ensuring that our pupils are offered a broad and balanced curriculum that aims to prepare them for life in modern Britain. We encourage our pupils to be inquisitive learners who are open to new experiences and are tolerant of others. We achieve this by delivering a broad curriculum including rigorous PHSE and RE fostering tolerance, understanding and respect for creed, race, colour and diversity across society, embedding British values, and continuing to build links with a school in Wembley with a very different demographic.

These values support the development of the whole child as a reflective learner within a calm, caring, happy and purposeful atmosphere. Teaching the school's core values alongside the fundamental British Values supports quality teaching and learning, whilst making a positive contribution to the development of a fair, just and civil society.

Opportunities are provided in the curriculum to enable pupils to discuss issues of religion, ethnicity and culture and the school follows the DfE advice Promoting fundamental British Values as part of SMSC (spiritual, moral, social and cultural education) in Schools (2014) https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/380595/SMS_C_Guidance_Maintained_Schools.pdf

Internet Safety

The internet provides children and young people with access to a wide-range of content, some of which is harmful. Extremists use the internet, including social media, to share their messages. The filtering systems used in our school blocks inappropriate content, including extremist content.

Where staff, students or visitors find unblocked extremist content they must report it to a senior member of staff.

Pupils and staff know how to report internet content that is inappropriate or of concern.

Staff Training

The DSL will deliver training to school staff to help them understand the issues of radicalisation, identify signs of extremism, and enable them to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns. This information also forms part of induction safeguarding training. Reporting and referral procedures are in line with LSCB guidance - <http://www.suffolkscb.org.uk/assets/files/2015/2015-06-12-Vulnerable-to-Radicalisation-Referral-and-Channel-Guidance.pdf>

Safer Recruitment

We ensure that the staff we appoint to the school are suitable, our recruitment procedures are rigorous and we follow the statutory guidance published in part 3 of *Keeping Children Safe in Education* DfE (2015). Vetting and barring checks are undertaken on relevant people, including governors and volunteers.

Visitors & Lettings

Regular visitors to the school are made aware of our safeguarding and child protection policies on arrival at the school and are given information about what to do if they are concerned about any aspect of child welfare.

Visitors who are invited to speak to pupils are informed about our policy on preventing extremism and relevant vetting checks are undertaken. Speakers will be supervised at all times and will not be allowed to speak to children without a member of staff being present. Staff must not invite speakers into school without first obtaining permission from the Headteacher.

'No platform for extremists'

The school is vigilant to the possibility that out-of-hours hire of the school premises may be requested by people wishing to run an extremist event. The school does not accept bookings from individuals or organisations that are extremist in their views.

Signs of vulnerability

There are no known definitive indicators that a young person is vulnerable to radicalisation, but there are a number of signs that together increase the risk. Signs of vulnerability include:

- underachievement
- being in possession of extremist literature
- poverty
- social exclusion
- traumatic events
- global or national events
- religious conversion
- change in behaviour
- extremist influences
- conflict with family over lifestyle
- confused identity
- victim or witness to race or hate crimes
- rejection by peers, family, social groups or faith

In this primary school we recognise that we need to be alert to families who may be vulnerable or have vulnerable members.

Recognising Extremism

Early indicators of radicalisation or extremism may include:

- showing sympathy for extremist causes
- glorifying violence, especially to other faiths or cultures
- making remarks or comments about being at extremist events or rallies outside school
- evidence of possessing illegal or extremist literature
- advocating messages similar to illegal organisations or other extremist groups
- out of character changes in dress, behaviour and peer relationships (but there are also very powerful narratives, programmes and networks that young people can come across online, so involvement with particular groups may not be apparent.)
- secretive behaviour
- online searches or sharing extremist messages or social profiles
- intolerance of difference, including faith, culture, gender, race or sexuality
- graffiti, art work or writing that displays extremist themes
- attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others
- verbalising anti-Western or anti-British views
- advocating violence towards others

In this primary school we recognise that we may not see these signs directly in the children, but need to be alert to other indicators that may be a sign of radicalisation in a family member.

Referral Process

Staff and visitors to the school must refer all concerns about children and young people who show signs of vulnerability or radicalisation to the Designated Safeguarding Lead using the usual Reporting Safeguarding Concerns Form (*see the Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy*).

When there are significant concerns about a pupil, the Designated Safeguarding Lead in liaison with the Headteacher will make a referral by using the Vulnerable to Radicalisation VTR referral form on LSCB website and email to the MASH: MASH@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

The process will then be as follows:

- The VTR referral will be sent to Special Branch Single Point of Entry (SPOE) where deconfliction checks are completed
- Channel Practitioner then determines referral is not malicious, misinformed or involves illegality
- MASH complete full agency checks and send updated VTR referral to Channel Practitioner.
- Suitability assessment made with Head of Safeguarding (Channel Panel Chair)
- Channel Panel held to determine suitability for Channel programme
- Collective assessment of support needs based on risk and suitability
- Action plan put in place to deliver support package

The Channel

Channel is an early intervention multi-agency panel designed to safeguard vulnerable individuals from being drawn into extremist or terrorist behaviour. Channel is aimed at early interventions before people become involved in criminal activity. For instance, a successful intervention might dissuade someone from travelling to Syria or Iraq.

Where appropriate a member of school staff could be invited to attend the Channel panel or to get involved in the process of support.

Contacts for PREVENT

The Police contact is Andy Hill.

The Local Authority contact is Tina Wilson.

Related Policies

- *Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy*
- *E-Safety Policy*