



Preventing Radicalisation Policy

Background

This 'Preventing Radicalisation Policy' is part of The Southwater Junior Academy's commitment to keeping children safe. Since the 'Education and Inspection Act 2006' schools have a duty to promote community cohesion. Over the last few years, global events have led to a degree of instability in some communities and there has been a growth of extremist viewpoints, including advocacy of violent extremism.

Schools have 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.

Safeguarding children from all risks of harm is an important part of the academy's work and protecting them from extremism is one aspect of that. Pupils who attend the academy have the right to learn in safety. We do not tolerate bullying of any kind and will challenge derogatory language and behaviour toward others.

Statutory Duties

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

- . Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015)
- . Keeping Children Safe in Education (2015)
- . Counter Terrorism and Security Act (2015)
- . Prevent Duty Guidance (2015)

Non-statutory Guidance

. Improving the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of pupils: supplementary information (Departmental advice for independent schools, academies and free schools) (DfE 2014)

Related Policies:

- . Acceptable Use (ICT) Policy
- . Behaviour Policy
- . Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- . Equality Policy
- . Lettings' Policy
- . Staff Code of Conduct
- . Teaching and Learning Policy
- . Whistle-blowing Policy

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 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 academy meets its statutory duties with regard to preventing radicalisation. The governing body has a nominated person who will liaise with the academy about issues to do with radicalisation.

Role of the Headteacher

It is the role of the headteacher to:

- . ensure that the academy and its staff respond to preventing radicalisation on a day-to-day basis,
- . ensure that the academy'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 those matters

Role of staff

It is the role of staff to understand the issues of radicalisation, are 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. The curriculum aims to develop resilience in children in young people so that they feel able to ask questions

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 the message. The filtering systems used in our school blocks inappropriate content, including extremist content. We also filter out social media, such as Facebook. Searches and web addresses are monitored and the ICT technician will alert senior staff where there are concerns and prevent further access when new sites that are unblocked are found.

Where staff, students or visitors find unblocked extremist contents they must report it to a member of staff. Pupils and staff should report internet content that is inappropriate or of concern.

Staff Training

Staff will be given training to help them understand the issues of radicalisation, are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns. Staff are updated as necessary in briefings.

Safe Space

We make sure that the academy is a safe space for pupils to ask questions and tackle difficult or sensitive issues. We will ensure our teachers are confident about facilitating these discussions.

Safer Recruitment

We ensure that the staff we appoint to the academy are suitable, our recruitment procedures are rigorous and we follow the statutory guidance published in part 3 or Keeping Children Safe in Education (2016). Vetting and barring checks are undertaken.

Visitors

Visitors to the academy are made aware of our safeguarding and child protection policies on arrival at the academy 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 will be informed about our preventing extremism policy and relevant vetting checks are undertaken. We undertake due diligence to ensure that visiting speakers are appropriate. Speakers will be supervised at all times and will not be allowed to speak to children with 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 academy premises may be requested by people wishing to run an extremist event. The academy does not accept bookings from individuals or organisations that are extremists in their views.

Signs of vulnerability

There are no known definitive indications that a young person is vulnerable to radicalisation, but there are 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 identify
- . victim or witness to race or hate crimes
- . rejection by peers, family, social groups or faith

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 Schools

- . evidence of possessing illegal or extremist literature
- . advocating messages similar to illegal organisation 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

Referral Process

Staff and visitors to the school must refer all concerns about children and young people who show signs of vulnerability or of radicalisation must be passed to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (Anne Ratsey, Alison Burke) using the usual methods for reporting other safeguarding concerns. When there are significant concerns about a pupil, the Designated Safeguarding Lead in liaison with the headteacher will make a referral to the appropriate body.

Monitoring and Review

The policy will be monitored by governing body at least annually This is not a statutory policy and will be reviewed at an appropriate time not later than every two years.

Policy written Sept 2016

Policy to be reviewed Sept 2018