Radicalisation Policy

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Approved by:

Full Governing Body

Document Change History

Review date:	Reviewed by	Change details
November 2019	Claire Wright	No changes made
November 2021	Claire Wright & FGB	• Page 2: Date change KCSIE 2021 • Page 3: Removal of Teaching & Learning Policy. • Page 4: Added RSE detail in to curriculum section. • Page 4: Added ELSA support. • Page 5: Removal of ICT technician checking websites. • Page 5: Date change KCSIE 2021
November 2023	Claire Wright & FBG	• Page 2. Changes made to guidance date and new link added. • Page 3. Section added on 'risk assessment' • Page 7. Section added on the referral process.
November 2025	Claire Wright & FBG	

At Hopton CEVC Primary School we live out the words of Jesus in Matthew 19 vs 26 'With God all things are possible'. We raise aspirations and encourage perseverance to reach goals in life and learning

Preventing Radicalisation Policy

Background

This 'Preventing Radicalisation Policy' is part of our commitment to keeping children safe. Since the 'Education and Inspections Act 2006' schools have a duty to promote community cohesion. Over the last few years, global events have led to 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 a school's work and protecting them from extremism is one aspect of that.

Ethos

At Hopton Primary School 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.

Pupils who attend our school have the right to learn in safety. We do not tolerate bullying of any kind and will challenge derogatory language and behaviour towards others. (Please see our Behaviour Policy)

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
- Prevent Duty Guidance (2023)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)

- Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools: Departmental advice for maintained schools (DfE 2014)

Related Policies

- Online Policy (including Acceptable Use)
- Behaviour Policy
- Lettings Policy
- Safeguarding Policy and Child Protection Policy
- Equality Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct/Handbook
- 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 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.

Risk Assessment

We will assess and monitor the risk of children being drawn into terrorism; the general risks may vary from area to area, and according to their age, local threat, and proportionality. This School recognises we are in an important position to identity risks within our local context.

• We should be aware of the increased risk of online radicalisation, as extremist and terrorist organisations seek to radicalise young people through the use of social media and the internet.

• There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to a terrorist ideology. As with managing other safeguarding risks, we should be alert to changes in children's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Children at risk of radicalisation may display different signs or seek to hide their views.

• School staff should use their professional judgment in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately.

• Even very young children may be vulnerable to radicalisation by others, whether in the family or outside, and display concerning behaviour. The Prevent duty does not require us to carry out unnecessary intrusion into family life but as with any other safeguarding risk, we must take action when we observe behaviour of concern.

• School Premises Lettings are vetted and monitored to ensure that the School buildings and resources are not used to promote terrorist or extremist activity.

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, this is the Safeguarding Governor Sarah Almond.

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, 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. We teach these values through our spiritual, moral, social and cultural days in school, the PSHE curriculum, lessons on British values and through whole school assemblies. Our PSHE / RSE curriculum is delivered using the Jigsaw scheme, which successfully weaves thought provoking, age appropriate discussions throughout six topics across the school. Further details on the structure of this curriculum can be found in the RSE Policy.

These values support the development of the whole child as a reflective learner within a calm, caring, happy and purposeful atmosphere. Teaching the schools 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.

Our school Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA) can support children further with their understanding.

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.

Searches and web addresses are monitored by class teachers who will alert the head teacher where there are concerns and prevent further access when new sites that are unblocked are found.

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

The Online Policy and The Acceptable Use document (AUP) refers to preventing radicalisation and related extremist content. Pupils and staff are asked to sign the AUP annually to confirm they have understood what is acceptable.

Pupils and staff know how to 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. This information also forms part of induction safeguarding training. Staff are updated as necessary in weekly safeguarding briefings.

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 (2021).* Vetting and barring checks are undertaken on relevant people, including governors and volunteers.

Visitors

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 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 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 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

<u>Recognising Extremism</u>

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

<u>Referral Process</u>

We will treat any worry or concern that a child or young person in the School may be exposed to possible extremism, extremist ideology and or radicalisation as a possible safeguarding concern and will seek advice where appropriate.

All Prevent concerns and incidents will be bought to the attention of the Designated Safeguarding Lead, who will follow the agreed procedures.

Where a referral is needed, we will use the [Prevent referral form](#) to share Prevent related concerns about any child, young person or adult within the school, with the Police Prevent Team.

Where a concern or incident is judged to be immediate and serious an appropriate lead in the School will contact the Police directly using 999.

We will ensure that we keep accurate and up to date records of any additional safeguarding concerns in line with our school's recording polices.

We understand that the Channel Programme is an element of the Prevent Strategy aimed at stopping vulnerable people being drawn into terrorism. We understand in order to support children and young people, individuals we refer to Prevent may receive a programme of support from this multi-agency group and we may be asked to work with and attend Channel Panel(s) to progress this support.

Where concerns about the impact of radicalisation or extremism indicate that a child or young person is additionally vulnerable and has complex needs or they are at risk of significant harm, a referral should be made to children's social care. (See [Making a referral to Childrens Social Care](#)

Monitoring and Review

This is not a statutory policy and will be reviewed at an appropriate time not later than two years after ratification by the governing body.