

Ashfield Valley Primary School

“Prevent Policy”

Preventing Radicalisation

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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 2015
- Prevent Duty Guidance 2015
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015

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.

Non-statutory Guidance

Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools: DfE Departmental advice for maintained schools 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.
- Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

British Values

- Democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

School Ethos

At Ashfield Valley Primary School we ensure that through our vision, values, relationships and teaching we promote tolerance and respect for all cultures, faiths and lifestyles. The Governors ensure that this ethos is reflected and implemented effectively through school policy and practice.

We have a duty to prepare our pupils for life in modern Britain and to keep them safe. Everyone at Ashfield Valley Primary School has the right to learn and work in safety. We do not tolerate bullying of any kind and will challenge derogatory language and behaviour towards others.

Roles and Responsibilities

Governors

- The governors should ensure that the school meets its statutory duties with regard to preventing radicalisation.
- There is a link governor for safeguarding who will liaise with the headteacher and staff about issues to do with protecting pupils from radicalisation.

Headteacher

It is the role of the headteacher to ensure that:

- the staff respond to preventing radicalisation on a day-to-day basis
- the curriculum addresses the issues involved in radicalisation
- staff conduct is consistent with preventing radicalisation

Designated Safeguarding Lead

It is the role of the Designated Safeguarding Leads to:

- ensure that staff understand the issues of radicalisation and that they are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns
- receive safeguarding concerns about pupils 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

The Designated Safeguarding Leads are the headteacher and the deputy headteacher.

Role of staff

It is the role of staff to

- understand the issues of radicalisation
- be able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation
- know how to refer their concerns.

Curriculum

- We provide a broad and balanced curriculum that aims to prepare pupils for life in modern Britain.
- We encourage our pupils to be open to new experiences and to be tolerant of others.
- We support the development of the whole child as a reflective learner within a safe respectful learning environment.
- Teaching fundamental British values makes a positive contribution to the development of a fair, just and civil society.

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 at our schools block inappropriate content, including extremist content.
- If staff or pupils find inappropriate content, they must report it immediately to a senior member of staff.

Staff Training

All staff attended training in October 2015 to help them understand the issues of radicalisation, so that they are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns. This information also forms part of the annual safeguarding training.

Safer Recruitment

- Recruitment procedures are rigorous.
- The school observes the statutory guidance published in part 3 of Keeping Children Safe in Education 2015.
- DBS checks are carried out on all adults having regular unsupervised access to children.

Visitors

- We ensure that visiting speakers are appropriate. Speakers are supervised at all times and are not allowed to speak to pupils without a member of staff being present.
- Staff must not invite speakers into schools without first obtaining permission from the Headteacher.

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
- being a victim of or witness to race or hate crimes
- rejection by peers, family, social groups or faith
- isolation from peers
- becoming withdrawn in class
- disengagement from work
- aggressive behaviour towards peers
- rebelling against school rules
- attendance – change in pattern

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 (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
- on-line 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

Also consider families at risk

- Not buying into the school's ethos
- Questioning policies
- Keeping apart from other parents

Referral Process

- Staff and visitors to the school must refer all concerns about pupils who show signs of vulnerability or radicalisation to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- When there are significant concerns about a pupil, a referral will be made through MASS to the Channel Pathway.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be monitored and reviewed by the Governors.

Related Policies

Behaviour and Discipline, Child Protection , Equality and Diversity, Safe working practices, Whistleblowing, Computing (including e-safety)