



Prevent Duty Policy

Tonacliffe Primary School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. As a school we recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation is no different from safeguarding against any other vulnerability. All staff are expected to uphold and promote the fundamental principles of British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Aims and Principles

The main aims of this policy statement are to ensure that staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalisation; that they overcome professional disbelief that such issues will not happen here and ensure that we work alongside other professional bodies and agencies to ensure that our pupils are safe from harm. The principle objectives are that:

- All Staff and Governors will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- All Staff and Governors will know what the school policy is on anti-radicalisation and extremism and will follow the policy when issues arise.
- All parents and pupils will know that the school has policies in place to keep pupils safe from harm and that the school regularly reviews its systems to ensure they are appropriate and effective.

Definitions and Indicators

Extremism: is the vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. This also includes calling for the death of members of the armed forces.

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

Terrorism: is an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people; causes serious damage to property; or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made for the purpose of advancing political, religious or ideological cause.

There is no single way of identifying whether a child is likely to be susceptible to an extremist ideology. Background factors combined with specific influences such as family and friends may contribute to a child's vulnerability. Similarly, radicalisation can occur through many different methods such as social media or the internet) and settings (such as within the home).

However, it is possible to protect vulnerable people from extremist ideology and intervene to prevent those at risk of radicalisation being radicalised. Schools can help to protect children from extremist and violent views in the same ways that they help to safeguard children from child sexual exploitation, drugs, gang violence or alcohol.

Procedures and Referrals

We recognise that our school has a duty of care to our pupils and staff which includes safeguarding them from the risk of being drawn into terrorism. Being drawn into terrorism includes not just violent extremism but also non-violent extremism, which can create an atmosphere conducive to terrorism and can popularise views which terrorists exploit. Prevent can work within both violent and non-violent extremism arenas and can include topics such as hate crime, racism, bullying, on line safety and extreme political views.

We believe that it is possible to intervene to protect people who are vulnerable. Early intervention is vital and staff must be aware of the established processes for front line professionals to refer concerns about individuals and/or groups. We must have the confidence to challenge, the confidence to intervene and ensure that we have strong safeguarding practices based on the most up-to-date guidance and best practice.

Our School is committed to:

- Establishing a Prevent Lead – this is Joanne Heap (Headteacher).
- Assessing the risk of students being drawn into terrorism.
- Developing an action plan to reduce the risk.
- Training staff to recognise radicalisation and extremism.
- Referring vulnerable people to Channel.
- Prohibiting extremist speakers and events.
- Managing access to extremist material- ICT filters.
- Being confident about British Values.

We will therefore always take a considered and sensitive approach in order that we can support all of our pupils by:

- Providing a safe environment for children and young people to learn and develop in our school setting, and
- identifying children and young people who are particularly vulnerable to extreme views / radicalisation, and taking appropriate action in accordance with the schools Safeguarding procedures with the aim of making sure they are kept safe both at home and in our school setting.
- Making appropriate referrals to the Local Authority for early intervention and support where necessary.
- Ensuring that staff member(s) or governor(s) responsible for safeguarding are kept fully aware of their responsibilities, by attending relevant training and briefings.
- Letting staff, parents and pupils know how to voice their concerns.

- Responding to any allegations appropriately in accordance with appropriate school policies and procedures.

Disclosures

If a child discloses something to you that concerns you, no matter how small – it is always safer to tell someone else than keep it to yourself – the information may seem insignificant, but could be a crucial part of a bigger picture for that child. You may also be concerned that the behaviour of a child or group of children would leave them vulnerable to being exposed to extremist influences or prejudiced views. This guidance should be used in conjunction with the “Prevent Duty Policy” and “Keeping Children Safe in Education” documents. If in doubt – always report.

Guidance:

A child says something or shows you something that worries you, perhaps accessing materials on the internet/social media that relate to extreme views or vocal and active opposition to our fundamental British Values:

1. If appropriate, reassure the child that is okay to talk, do not make any promises that you won't tell anyone else; you may have to tell someone to keep them safe.
2. Don't ask them leading questions, just listen to the child.
3. Use the phrase, “I do not agree with that and I will have to tell someone about what has happened.”
4. Record on CPOMS what they have said or are exposed to and IMMEDIATELY tell one of the Designated Safeguarding Leads.

The Headteacher with fellow DSLs will discuss the most appropriate course of action on a case-by-case basis and will decide when a referral to external agencies is needed. The website below supports this mechanism: www.lancashirepreventpartnership.org.uk

Role of the curriculum

Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. 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. Children are encouraged to share their views and recognise that they are entitled to have their own different beliefs which should not be used to influence others. Our PSHE and SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) provision is embedded across the curriculum, and underpins the ethos of the school. 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. Children are regularly taught about how to stay safe when using the Internet and are encouraged to recognise that people are not always who they say they are online. They are taught to seek adult help if they are upset or concerned about anything they read or see on the Internet.

Our Prevent Curriculum Lead is Lauren Sutcliffe.

Links to other policies:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Positive Behaviour Policy
- Computing Policy

- Online Safety Policy
- Single Equality Duty Policy

Our school policy draws upon guidance from KCSiE September 2024
and the Prevent Duty Guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>

Useful Documents:

Educate Against Hate is a government website which is designed to support school staff and leaders to help them safeguard pupils from radicalisation and extremism. The platform provides free information and resources to help school staff identify and address the risks, as well as build resilience to radicalisation.

Policy written August 2022.

Policy Reviewed August 2024

Next Review August 2025.