



# Radicalisation Policy

Policy Version Control	
Policy type	Radicalisation Policy
Policy prepared by (name and designation)	Sarah Wassell - Head of School
Last review date	January 2021
Description of changes	Safeguarding Lead Changed PREVENT contact number changed
Date of approval	1 <sup>st</sup> February 2021
Date released	1 <sup>st</sup> February 2021
Next review date	January 2022

## **SAFEGUARDING PUPILS/STUDENTS WHO ARE VULNERABLE TO EXTREMISM**

Schools have a vital role to play in protecting pupils from the risks of extremism and radicalisation, a role which is underpinned by the Counter- Terrorism and Security Act 2015 “to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. The Government’s Prevent Strategy has raised awareness of the specific need to safeguard children, young people and families from violent extremism and terrorism. There have been nationally situations in which extremist groups have attempted to radicalise vulnerable children and young people to hold extreme views including views justifying political, religious, sexist or racist violence, or to steer them into a rigid and narrow ideology that is intolerant of diversity and leaves them vulnerable to future radicalisation.

**Northwood Primary School** values freedom of speech and the expression of beliefs / ideology as fundamental rights underpinning our society’s values. Both pupils/students and teachers have the right to speak freely and voice their opinions. However, freedom comes with responsibility and free speech that is designed to manipulate the vulnerable or that leads to violence and harm of others goes against the moral principles in which freedom of speech is valued. Free speech is not an unqualified privilege; it is subject to laws and policies governing equality, human rights, community safety and community cohesion. The current threat from terrorism in the United Kingdom may include the exploitation of vulnerable people, to involve them in terrorism or in activity in support of terrorism. The normalisation of extreme views may also make children and young people vulnerable to future manipulation and exploitation. Northwood Primary is clear that this exploitation and radicalisation should be viewed as a safeguarding concern.

Definitions of radicalisation and extremism, and indicators of vulnerability to radicalisation are in Appendix A.

**Northwood Primary School** seeks to protect children and young people against the messages of all violent extremism including, but not restricted to, those linked to Islamist ideology, or to Far Right / Neo Nazi / White Supremacist ideology, Irish Nationalist and Loyalist paramilitary groups, and extremist Animal Rights movements.

### **Risk reduction**

The school governors, the Head Teacher/Principal and the Designated Safeguarding Lead will assess the level of risk within the school and put actions in place to reduce any identified risks.

### **Procedure**

*Keeping children / young people safe from these risks is a safeguarding matter and should be approached in the same way as safeguarding children from other risks. When any member of staff has concerns that a pupil may be at risk of radicalisation or involvement in terrorism, they should speak with the Prevent Single Point of Contact (SPOC).*

The Prevent Single Point of Contact (SPOC) will be the lead within the School for safeguarding in relation to protecting individuals from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism: this is the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

The SPOC for **Northwood Primary School** is Laura Robinson. The responsibilities of the SPOC are described in Appendix B.

Numerous factors can contribute to and influence the range of behaviours that are defined as violent extremism, but most young people do not become involved in extremist action. For this reason the appropriate interventions in any particular case may not have any specific connection to the threat of radicalisation, for example they may address mental health, relationship or drug/alcohol issues.

## **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 governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- All governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff 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**

**Radicalisation** refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremism leading to terrorism.

**Extremism** is defined by Government in the 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. Also include in the definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces. Indicators of vulnerabilities to radicalisation see appendix 2 3

## **The Role of the Curriculum**

Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. 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 Red curriculum (Relationships Education) and SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) provision is embedded across the curriculum and underpins the ethos of the school.

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.

### **Staff Training**

School will ensure that all staff are fully aware of the threats, risks and vulnerabilities that are linked to radicalisation; are aware of radicalisation and how this might be identified early on.

### **Policy Review**

This policy statement will be reviewed annually as part of the overall Child Protection and Safeguarding policy review

### **Appendices**

- A. Indicators of vulnerabilities to radicalisation
- B. Role and responsibilities of the single point of contact (SPOC)

### **Further support**

**Due Diligence and Counter Extremism Group (DDCEG) Helpline - (020 7340 7264)** For school staff and governors to raise concerns relating to extremism directly and in confidence.

### **Durham Constabulary Prevent Team - 0191 375 2234**

To report illegal information, picture or videos found on the internet  
[www.gov.uk/reportterrorism](http://www.gov.uk/reportterrorism) 4

### **Prevent Duty Guidance**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-strategy-2011>  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>  
<http://www.preventtragedies.co.uk/>  
<http://www.familiesmatter.org.uk/> **Useful websites**

**Resources to use with pupils** <http://www.wherestheline.co.uk/>  
<http://www.preventforschools.org/>