



Prevention of Radicalisation Statement

Approved by the Preston Primary Academy Trust

Reviewed July 2024
Next review due September 2025

Preston Primary Academy Trust

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This policy has been written with the underlying principles of a Church of England school, which applies to Ash C of E Primary school, North Cadbury C of E Primary School and Preston C of E Primary School

BACKGROUND

This Preventing Radicalisation Statement is part of our commitment to keeping our pupils 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 Preston Primary Academy Trust, we ensure that through our vision, values, relationships and teaching we promote tolerance and respect. The Board of Directors and Local Governing Bodies (LGBs) ensure that this ethos is reflected and implemented effectively through policy and practice and that there are policies in place to safeguard and promote pupils' welfare.

All members of the Trust community have 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.

STATUTORY DUTIES

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

- *Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2019*
- *Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023 and 2024*
- *Prevent Duty Guidance 2015 – updated September 2023*
- *Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023*

NON-STATUTORY GUIDANCE

- *Promoting Fundamental British Values as Part of SMSC in Schools* (DfE (Department for education) advice for maintained schools)

RELATED POLICIES

- *Schools' Online Safety Policy*
- *Acceptable Use Policy*
- *Behaviour Policy*
- *Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy*

- *Code of Conduct*
- *Curriculum Policy*
- *Anti-Bullying Policy*
- *Whistleblowing Policy*

DEFINITIONS

Extremism is the promotion or advancement of an ideology based on violence, hatred or intolerance, that aims to:

1. negate or destroy the fundamental rights and freedoms of others; or
2. undermine, overturn or replace the UK's system of liberal parliamentary democracy and democratic rights or
3. intentionally create a permissive environment for others to achieve the results in (1) or (2).

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 is the process of a person legitimising support for, or use of, terrorist violence.

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 a political, religious or ideological cause.

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

The Board of Directors

It is the role of the Board of Directors to ensure that the Trust meets its statutory duties with regard to preventing radicalisation. It has delegated some of its powers to the Local Governing Bodies (LGBs) of its schools.

Local Governing Body (LGB)

It is the role of the LGB to ensure that the school meets its statutory duties with regard to preventing radicalisation. Each school within the Trust has a nominated Governor who will liaise with the Head teacher/Deputy Head teacher and other staff regarding issues around protecting pupils from radicalisation.

Head teacher

It is the role of the Head teacher to ensure that the school curriculum and assembly programme incorporates the fundamental British Values and to ensure that staff conduct is consistent with preventing radicalisation

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

It is the role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead to ensure that staff understand the issues of radicalisation and that they have had access to appropriate training in order to recognise the signs of susceptibility or radicalisation and know how to refer any concerns.

The DSL will receive safeguarding concerns about pupils who may be susceptible to the risk of radicalisation or are showing signs of radicalisation. The DSL will make referrals to appropriate agencies with regard to concerns about radicalisation and will liaise with partners including WBC and police.

A list of DSLs (Designated Safeguarding Lead) for the Trust can be found in the Trust Child Protection Safeguarding policy on the PPAT website.

Staff

It is the role of all staff to access appropriate training in order to develop an understanding of the issues of radicalisation and to recognise the signs of susceptibility or radicalisation. All staff have a responsibility to know how to refer any concerns and to carry out an appropriate referral to the DSL.

Curriculum

We are committed to ensuring that our pupils are offered a broad and balanced curriculum. We encourage our pupils to be learners who are open to new experiences and to be tolerant of others. Our values support the development of the whole child as a responsible learner within a safe and respectful environment. Teaching the Trust'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.

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 the schools within the Trust block inappropriate content, including extremist content. Where staff, pupils or visitors find unblocked extremist content they must report it to a senior member of staff immediately.

We are aware that children and young people may access unfiltered content when using the internet at home and, therefore, the schools' Online Safety policies refer to preventing radicalisation and related extremist content. Pupils and staff know how to report internet content that is inappropriate or of concern.

PERSONNEL

Staff Training

Staff will be given training to help them understand the issues of radicalisation, so that they are able to recognise the signs of susceptibility or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns. All staff, Directors and Governors will complete Prevent training annually.

Safer Recruitment

We ensure that all staff we appoint are suitable to work with primary aged pupils and that our recruitment procedures follow the statutory guidance published in part 3 of *Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024*. Vetting and barring checks are undertaken on relevant people, including Directors, Governors and Volunteers.

Visitors

Visitors to the school are made aware of our safeguarding policies on arrival and are given information about what to do if they have a cause for concern about a child's welfare.

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 pupils without a member of staff being present. Staff must not invite speakers into school without first checking with a member of SLT.

SIGNS OF SUSCEPTIBILITY

There are no known definitive indicators that a young person is susceptible to radicalisation but there are number of signs that together increase the risk. Signs of susceptibility 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
- 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 (NB There are also very powerful narratives, programmes, and networks that young people can encounter 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, artwork 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 pupils who show signs of susceptibility or radicalisation to the Designated Safeguarding Lead using the agreed methods for reporting safeguarding concerns. When there are significant concerns about a pupil, the Designated Safeguarding Lead in liaison with a Deputy Safeguarding Lead will make a referral to the appropriate body.