

REDDIFORD SCHOOL

PREVENT POLICY

To be used in conjunction with;

Safeguarding Policy

Admission Policy

Attendance Policy

Missing Child Policy

This policy is written with reference to government Prevent Duty guidelines (Dec 2023). & DCSF Learning together to be safe 2008.

INTRODUCTION

Since 1 July 2015 schools have to show that they are actively preventing radicalisation through their curriculum, education and ethos.

In line with guidance from the Department for Education (DfE), Reddiford School has a zero tolerance acceptance of extremist behaviour and ensures that its care, guidance and curriculum empowers young people to reject violent or extremist behaviour.

Reddiford School feels the best way to safeguard our pupils from abuse and radicalisation is to enable free discussion of ideas in a nurturing, questioning environment. The aim being to develop critically minded and well-rounded pupils who are ready for the challenges of life and comfortable with themselves.

Whilst it remains rare for school age children to become involved in extremist activity, young people can be exposed to extremist influences or prejudiced views, including via the internet, from an early age. Early intervention is a preferable way of tackling extremism.

DEFINITION

Extremism can be defined as “holding of extreme opinions: the holding of extreme political or religious views or the taking of extreme actions on the basis of those views”.

STRATEGIES FOR PREVENTING EXTREMISM

The Office for Security & Counter Terrorism works to counter the threat from terrorism and their work is detailed in the counter terrorism strategy CONTEST. This strategy is based on four areas of work:

- **Pursue**
To stop terrorist attacks
- **Prevent**
To stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism
- **Protect**
To strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack
- **Prepare**
To mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack

Our role, as a school, is outlined more specifically in the DCSF document ‘Learning together to be safe: a toolkit to help schools contribute to the prevention of violent extremism.’

AIMS

At Reddiford School we follow the principles outlined in the DCSF toolkit which seeks to:

- **Raise awareness** within school of the threat from violent extremist groups and the risks for young people.
- Provide **information** about what can cause violent extremism, about preventative actions taking place locally and nationally and where we can get additional information and advice.
- Help schools understand the **positive contribution** they can make to empower young people to create communities that are more resilient to extremism, and **protecting the wellbeing** of particular pupils or groups who may be vulnerable to being drawn into violent extremist activity.
- Provide advice on **managing risks** and responding to incidents locally, nationally or internationally that might have an impact on the school community.

This is achieved by assessing the risk:

- Anyone who is concerned about a young person or adult at risk of extremism or radicalisation may make a referral to the Channel Programme.
- Referral for young people up to and including age 18 (up to 25 with learning disability) should be made on a CAF (Common Assessment Framework) to Duty&Assess@harrow.gov.uk.cjsm.net detailing your concerns about the young person and relevant history.
- Referrals for people aged 19 and over should be made on the Prevent Referral Form which can be obtained via enquiry to prevent@harrow.gov.uk
- Staff are made aware of the potential risk and systems in place via the school PSHE policy and staff training to identify individual children who may be at risk of radicalisation or being drawn into terrorism/extremist activity.
- Absence is monitored and analysed in order to help identify vulnerable children. The Local Authority is notified if a child is absent from school for a period of 20 days or at any time when it is felt that there may be cause for concerns e.g. at the beginning or end of a long school holiday.
- The Local Authority is also informed of any child leaving the school where the destination is unknown. Also, they are informed when a child joins or leaves at any time other than at the start of the Reception Year.
- Parents and staff are monitored for emotive language or extreme ideas at all meetings.

Policies and Procedures

- Safeguarding policies and procedures have been updated to help to identify children at risk of radicalisation and to protect them; when it is appropriate to make a referral, whether to Children’s Services in the normal way or to make a referral to the Channel programme (020 8901 2690). *The Department for Education has dedicated a telephone helpline (020 7340 7264) to enable staff and governors to raise concerns relating to extremism directly. Concerns can also be raised by email to counter extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk*
- Reddiford School ensures that visiting speakers, whether invited by staff or pupils are vetted to ensure appropriateness of their talk. All staff are aware that they can raise for discussion any speakers that they feel needs further investigation before their attendance at the school. No visiting speaker addresses the children without having a member of staff present.
- The Designated Safeguarding Lead, who oversees and coordinates the school’s implementation of the Prevent duty, is supported by all members of the Senior Management Team.
- Reddiford School has a stringent policy and procedure for when a child goes missing and is vigilant in taking steps to prevent this occurring.

Training

- All staff receive basic training on their Prevent duty as part of their regular safeguarding training. All staff completed the latest training in Spring 2024.
- Governors undertake Prevent Training as part of their Annual Safeguarding Training.
- The DSL has undertaken Prevent awareness training so he can provide advice, support and training to other staff members.

Building Resilience to Radicalisation

This is achieved at Reddiford School through:

- The existing duty to promote fundamental British values throughout the curriculum and day to day activities.
- The PSHE syllabus teaching pupils to manage risk, resist pressure, make safer choices and seek help if necessary.
- The religious education and other relevant subject syllabus with focus on democracy, diversity, mutual respect and managing debate of political and contentious issues.

IT Policies and Training

- Reddiford School ensures that children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in school. The school has strong filtering systems and ICT Acceptable Use policies have been revised throughout the school to incorporate the dangers of accessing terrorist and extremist material.
- The existing ICT training equips children with the skills to stay safe online, both in school and outside of school.
- Policies for teaching staff ensure that they are aware of the risks posed by online activity of extremist and terrorist groups. All staff sign an 'Acceptable use of ICT' agreement.

Working in Partnership

The school will liaise with the local authority to establish what advice and support they can provide and for their assessment of general levels of risk within the local area.

Dealing with concerns

Anyone that is concerned that a child, or member of the Reddiford Community, is being radicalised should read the relevant section in our Safeguarding Policy and complete the concerns form. This should then be passed immediately to the DSL.