



## Leintwardine Endowed C.E. Primary School

# Preventing Radicalisation and Extremism Policy

### Introduction

This policy reflects our Christian foundation and our school ethos which are at the forefront of all that we do.

### Our School Ethos:

Whilst truly embedding ourselves in the heart of the church and the surrounding community, we provide outstanding learning opportunities for all our children and their families.

*'Letting Our Light Shine' Matthew 5:16*

### Our aim is that each child will be kind so that they –

Achieve their Potential  
Become Independent  
Connect with their Community  
Develop Resilience

**The named officer for Hereford Local Authority is Neville Meredith (Community Cohesion and Integration Manager) Tel: 01432 383628**

### Background

This Preventing Radicalisation Policy is part of our commitment to keeping our pupils and the school community 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 that schools 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 our school we ensure that through our vision, values, relationships and teaching we promote tolerance and respect for all cultures, faiths and lifestyles. The Governors also ensure that this ethos is reflected and implemented effectively through school policy and practice and that there is an effective suite of safeguarding policies in place to safeguard and promote pupils' welfare.

We have a duty to prepare our pupils for life in modern Britain and to keep them safe. Everyone at our 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.

## **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 2019
- Prevent Duty Guidance 2015
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015

## **Non-statutory Guidance**

Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools: DfE Departmental advice for maintained schools 2014

## **Related Policies**

- E-Safety and Internet use Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Peer on Peer Abuse Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Equality Opportunities Objectives
- Whistle-blowing Policy

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

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**

### **Role of the Governors**

It is the role of the Governors to ensure that the school meets its statutory duties with regard to preventing radicalisation.

The school has a nominated Safeguarding Governor (the Headteacher) who will liaise with other staff about issues to do with protecting pupils from radicalisation.

### **Role of the Headteacher**

It is the role of the Headteacher to:

- ensure that the school and its staff respond to preventing radicalisation
- ensure that the school's curriculum addresses the issues involved in radicalisation
- ensure that staff conduct is consistent with preventing radicalisation

### **Role of Designated Safeguarding Lead (In our case this is the Headteacher)**

It is the role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead to:

- Undertake and deliver Prevent awareness training
- ensure that staff understand the issues of radicalisation, 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 radicalization
- make referrals to appropriate agencies with regard to concerns about radicalisation. This is done via the same channels as Child Protection.
- liaise with partners, including the local authority and the police

### **Role of staff**

It is the role of staff to understand the issues of radicalisation, to ensure that they are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns.

### **Curriculum**

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. We encourage our pupils to be inquisitive learners who are open to new experiences and are tolerant of others. Our values support the development of the whole child as a reflective learner within a safe respectful learning environment. 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.

### **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 school blocks inappropriate content, including extremist content.

Where staff, pupils or visitors find unblocked extremist content they must report it immediately to a senior member of staff.

The e-safety and internet user policy refers to preventing radicalisation and related extremist content. Pupils and staff know how to report internet content that is inappropriate or of concern.

### **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 vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns. This information also forms part of the annual safeguarding training. Staff will complete on line Prevent training.

### **Safer Recruitment**

We ensure that the staff we appoint to the school are suitable, our recruitment procedures are rigorous and we follow the statutory guidance published in part 3 of Keeping Children Safe in Education 2015. DBS checks are carried out in accordance with up to date guidance on persons having regular unsupervised access to children.

### **Visitors**

Visitors to the school are made aware of our safeguarding and child protection policies on arrival at the school and are given information about what to do if they are concerned about any aspect of child 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 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 event
- 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
- 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 those of 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 on 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 school 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 using the usual methods for reporting other safeguarding concerns. When there are significant concerns about a pupil, a referral to the channel programme will be made to

the appropriate body.

### **Training**

The Headteacher, Teachers and Chair of Governors have undertaken and passed the online training module for the Prevent Duty (May 2020). It is our expectation that all new teachers will be trained in a similar way.

The DSLO has disseminated information to the rest of the staff who all have a copy of the Prevent Duty for reference.

### **Monitoring and Review**

This policy will be monitored and reviewed by the Governors.