

St Anne's RC Primary and Nursery School Audenshaw

Policy for the Prevention of Radicalisation and Extremism

Our Mission Statement

*'To help every person to achieve his or her best in work and in play.
To celebrate whatever is good and to follow the footsteps of Jesus by supporting
each other for the honour and glory of God'*

Rationale

At St Anne's RC Primary and Nursery School we are fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our children. This policy is intended to provide a framework for dealing with issues relating to vulnerability, radicalisation and exposure to extreme views. Every member of staff recognises safeguarding against radicalisation and extremism as part of safeguarding practice. The purpose of this Policy is to set out our beliefs, strategies and procedures to protect vulnerable individuals from being radicalised or exposed to extremist views, by identifying who they are and promptly providing them with support.

Guidelines

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies: Child Protection, Safeguarding, Equality Policy, Anti-bullying, Positive Behaviour, E-Safety. In addition, the following national guidelines should also be read when working with this policy; PREVENT Strategy HM Government – Counter Terrorism Act 2015 Keeping Children Safe in Education DfE 2015 Working Together to Safeguard Children HM Government 2013.

Aims

- to identify safeguarding issues relating to radicalisation and extremism
- to be vigilant in school.
- work alongside other professional bodies and agencies to ensure that our children are safe from harm.

All governors and staff will

- know what the school policy is on tackling extremism and radicalisation
- follow the policy guidance swiftly should an issue arise.

All children will

- understand the dangers of radicalisation and exposure to extremist views
- be equipped to build resilience against these
- know what to do if they experience them.

All parents/carers and children will

know that the school has policies in place to keep them safe from harm
know the school regularly reviews its systems to ensure they are appropriate and effective.

Definitions

Radicalisation is defined as the act or process of making a person more radical or favouring of extreme or fundamental changes in political, economic or social conditions, institutions or habits of the mind.

Extremism is defined as the holding of extreme political or religious views.

There are a number of behaviours which may indicate a child is at risk of being radicalised or exposed to extreme views. These include;

- Spending increasing time in the company of other suspected extremists.
- Changing their style of dress or personal appearance to accord with the group.
- Day-to-day behaviour becoming increasingly centred on an extremist ideology, group or cause. Loss of interest in other friends and activities not associated with the extremist ideology, group or cause.
- Possession of materials or symbols associated with an extremist cause.
- Attempts to recruit others to the group/cause.
- Communications with others that suggests identification with a group, cause or ideology.
- Using insulting to derogatory names for another group.
- Increase in prejudice-related incidents committed by that person – these may include; physical or verbal assault, provocative behaviour, damage to property, derogatory name calling, possession of prejudice-related materials, prejudice related ridicule or name calling, inappropriate forms of address, refusal to co-operate, attempts to recruit to prejudice-related organisations, condoning or supporting violence towards others.

Procedures for Referrals/Risk Assessments

As a school we believe that it is possible to intervene to protect those 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 practise. The Designated Senior Officers for Child Protection and Safeguarding will deal swiftly with any referrals made or concerns reported by staff. The Head Teacher 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.

It is important for all staff to

- be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues which affect the local area, city and society in which we teach.
- be mindful to suspend any 'professional disbelief' that instances of radicalisation 'could not happen here' and to be 'professionally inquisitive'
- refer any concerns (should they arise) through the appropriate channels

As with any child protection referral, everyone must be made aware that if they do not agree with a decision not to refer, they can make the referral themselves and will be given the contact details to do this via the safeguarding board as outlined in the Safeguarding Policy.

As part of our work in Early Intervention.

We will:

- carry out and review regularly a Risk Assessment for preventing and tackling radicalisation and extremism.
- share this with staff and Governors.

The Role of the Curriculum and British Values

At St Anne's we offer a curriculum that is broad and balanced. It 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 SMSC provision is embedded across the curriculum. This is further underpinned by our belief that as a school we are committed to upholding the British Values that are set out by the DFE – in Promoting British Values through Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural work 2014. We promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs . These beliefs form part of our assemblies and the ethos of the school.

It is recognised that children with low aspirations are more vulnerable to radicalisation and therefore we strive to equip our children with confidence, self-belief, respect and tolerance in addition to setting high standards and expectations for themselves.

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 will ensure that we

are fully aware of the threats, risks and vulnerabilities that are linked to radicalisation

are aware of the process of radicalisation and how this might be identified early

are aware of how we can provide support as a school to ensure that our children are resilient and able to resist involvement in radical or extreme activities.

are vigilant when inviting a visitor in the school, first seeking permission from the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher.

never leave children unsupervised with external visitors, regardless of safeguarding check outcomes.

ensure, on arrival at school that all visitors including contractors, will read the child protection and safeguarding guidance and be made aware of who the Designated Officers for the school are and how to report any concerns which they may experience.

If any agreement is made to allow non-school groups or organisations to use the premises, appropriate checks will be made before agreeing the contract. Usage will be monitored and in the event of any behaviour not in-keeping with the Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation Policy, the school will contact the police and terminate the contract.

The Governing Body of our School is responsible for ensuring the annual review of this policy. The policy will be reviewed annually in the Autumn Term Governors Business Meeting.

Headteacher : Mrs E Gaffney Date: 13th September 2016

Chair of Governors: Rev James Clarke Date: 13th September 2016

Named Governor for Child Protection Rev James Clarke Date: 13th September 2016