



Altrincham Grammar School for Boys

Prevent Radicalisation Policy

Nominated Lead Member of Staff:	EH/HM
Last Review Date:	October 2019
Next Review Date:	October 2022

Background

Prevent statutory duties were placed on schools by the Counter Terrorism and Security Act (2015) to work to prevent children being drawn into extremism. The duty to prevent children and young people being radicalised is also contained in the following documents.

- Keeping Children Safe in Education (2019)
- Contest: The United Kingdom's Strategy for Countering Terrorism (2018)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)
- Improving the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of pupils: supplementary information (DfE 2014)

This policy should be read alongside other related school policies

- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Preparing Students for Life in Modern Britain
- Equality Policy
- Acceptable Use of ICT
- Safer Recruitment Procedures

- Staff Code of Conduct

2. Definitions

Extremism is defined by the UK Government 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.

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

3. Roles and Responsibilities

3.1 Role of the Governing Body

The role of the governing body is to ensure that the school meets its statutory duties with regard to preventing radicalisation. The nominated Child Protection governor will liaise with the Headmaster and other staff about issues to do with protecting children from radicalisation.

3.2 Role of the Head Master

The Head Master will:

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

3.3 Role of Designated Safeguarding Lead

The Designated Safeguarding Lead will:

- ensure that staff understand the issues of radicalisation, are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns
- receive safeguarding concerns about children and young people who may be vulnerable to the risk of radicalisation or are showing signs of radicalisation
- make referrals to appropriate agencies with regard to concerns about radicalisation
- liaise with partners, including the local authority and the police
- report to the governing body on these matters.

3.4 Role of staff

All staff need to understand the issues of radicalisation, be able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns.

4. Curriculum

We are committed to providing a broad and balanced curriculum that aims to prepare students for life in modern Britain. Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. Students 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.

British Values, extremist viewpoints and preventing radicalisation are part of our Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education curriculum. British Values and Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural provision are also embedded across the curriculum.

5. Internet Safety

The internet provides students 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 in our school blocks inappropriate content, including extremist content.

We also filter out social media, such as Facebook. Searches and web addresses are monitored and the ICT technicians will alert senior staff where there are concerns and prevent further access when new sites that are unblocked are found.

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

Students have access to unfiltered internet when using their mobile phones. We have a mobile phone policy which stipulates that students are not to use a mobile phone at school between 8:40 – 15:25. On school trips and other times when students are allowed to use their mobile phones staff are alert to the need for vigilance.

Students are taught how to stay safe online, both in school and outside school. They are taught to understand the risks posed by adults or young people who use the internet and social media to groom, abuse or radicalise other people, especially children, young people and vulnerable adults. Students and staff know how to report internet content that is inappropriate or of concern.

6. Staff Training

Staff will be given training to help them understand the issues of radicalisation, are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns. This information also forms part of induction safeguarding training.

7. 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 (2019). Vetting and barring checks are undertaken on relevant people, including governors and volunteers.

8. 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. Relevant vetting checks are undertaken for all visitors who are invited to speak to students. We undertake due diligence to ensure that visiting speakers are appropriate. Speakers will be supervised at all times. Staff must not invite speakers into school without first obtaining permission from the Senior Team.

9. Lettings and use of school premises

The school is vigilant to the possibility that out-of-hours hire of the school premises may be requested by people wishing to run an extremist event. The school does not accept bookings from individuals or organisations that are extremist in their views.

10. Signs of vulnerability

There are no known definitive indicators that a young person is vulnerable to radicalisation, but there are a 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 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

11. Recognising Extremism

Early indicators of radicalisation or extremism may include:

- showing sympathy for extremist causes
- glorifying violence, especially to other faiths or cultures

- making comments about being at extremist events or rallies outside school
- 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
- secretive behaviour
- online searches or sharing extremist messages or 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.

12. Referral Process

Staff and visitors to the school must refer all concerns about children and young people who show signs of vulnerability or radicalisation. The concerns must be passed to the Designated Safeguarding Lead or the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead using the usual methods for reporting other safeguarding. When there are significant concerns about a student, the Designated Safeguarding Lead in liaison with the Headmaster will make a referral to the appropriate body.

13. Monitoring and Review

The effective implementation of this policy will be monitored by the governing body by receiving an annual report from the Designated Safeguarding Lead.