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**TACKLING EXTREMISM &  
RADICALISATION  
(PREVENT) POLICY**

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September 2015

## **Introduction**

From 1 July 2015 all schools are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, in the exercise of their functions, to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism". This duty is known as the *Prevent Duty for Schools*. Please click [here](#) for a link to the *Prevent Duty for Schools*.

As part of Carr Hill Community Primary School's ongoing safeguarding and child protection duties we are fully behind the government's *Prevent Strategy*. Please click [here](#) for a link to the official *Prevent Strategy* document.

Every member of staff recognises that safeguarding against radicalisation and extremism is no different to safeguarding against any other vulnerability in today's society. This Policy sets 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.

At Carr Hill, we build pupils' resilience to radicalisation by promoting fundamental British values and enabling our pupils to challenge extremist views. You can find our statement of intent detailing what we do to promote British values on our school website.

## **Aims and Principles**

This Policy is intended to provide a framework for dealing with issues relating to vulnerability, radicalisation and exposure to extreme views. We recognise that we are well placed to be able to identify safeguarding issues and this policy clearly sets out how the school will deal with such incidents and identifies how the curriculum and ethos underpins our actions.

The objectives are that:

- All governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- All governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff will know what the school policy is on tackling extremism and radicalisation and will follow the policy guidance swiftly when issues arise.
- All pupils will understand the dangers of radicalisation and exposure to extremist views, building resilience against these and knowing what to do if they experience them.
- All parents/carers and pupils will know that the school has policies in place to keep pupils safe from harm and that the school regularly reviews its systems to ensure they are appropriate and effective.

The main aims of this policy are to ensure that staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalisation; that they overcome professional disbelief that such issues will not happen here and ensure that we work alongside other professional bodies and agencies to ensure that our pupils are safe from harm.

## **Definitions and Indicators**

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.

## **Procedure for Referrals**

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at Carr Hill Community Primary School to date, it is important for us to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues which affect the local area, city and society in which we teach. Staff are reminded to suspend any 'professional disbelief' that instances of radicalisation 'could not happen here' and to be 'professionally inquisitive' where concerns arise, referring any concerns through the appropriate channels. (See appendix 1 - Dealing with referrals)

We believe that it is possible to intervene to protect people 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 Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher, as the Designated Leaders for Safeguarding, will deal swiftly with any referrals made by staff or with concerns reported by staff. They 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.

Staff will be fully briefed about what to do if they are concerned about the possibility of radicalisation relating to a pupil, or if they need to discuss specific children whom they consider to be vulnerable to radicalisation or extremist views.

### **The role of the Curriculum**

Our curriculum 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.

It is recognised that children with low aspirations are more vulnerable to radicalisation and therefore we strive to equip our pupils with confidence, self-belief, respect and tolerance as well as 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 Training**

The Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher have attended a Workshop to raise awareness of Prevent (WRAP). Through INSET opportunities in school, we will ensure that our staff 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 on and 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.

### **Visitors and Use of the School Premises**

Any visitors to the school are subject to Safeguarding Checks including DBS checks and photo identification. Children are NEVER left unsupervised with external visitors, regardless of safeguarding check outcomes.

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.

## Dealing with referrals

We are aware of the potential indicating factors that a child is vulnerable to being radicalised or exposed to extreme views, including peer pressure, influence from other people or the internet, bullying, crime and anti-social behaviour, family tensions, race/hate crime, lack of self-esteem or identity, prejudicial behaviour and personal or political grievances.

In the event of prejudicial behaviour the following system will be followed:

- All incidents of prejudicial behaviour will be reported directly to the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher;
- All incidents will be fully investigated and recorded and records will be kept in line with procedures for any other safeguarding incident;
- Parents/carers will be contacted and the incident discussed in detail, aiming to identify motivating factors, any changes in circumstances at home, parental views of the incident and to assess whether the incident is serious enough to warrant a further referral. A note of this meeting is kept alongside the initial referral in the Safeguarding folder;
- The Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher and Class Teacher will follow-up any referrals for a period of four weeks after the incident to assess whether there is a change in behaviour and/or attitude - a further meeting with parents would be held if there is not a significant positive change in behaviour;
- If deemed necessary, serious incidents will be referred to Francis Hands, Manager - Safeguarding Children on 0191 433 2884;
- In the event of a referral relating to serious concerns about potential radicalisation or extremism, the school will also contact the North East Counter Terrorism Unit (CTU) on 0800 789321;
- In the case of an emergency, or an immediate threat, always call 999.