

Prevent Policy



July 2024

Prevent Radicalisation Policy

Background

This 'Preventing Radicalisation Policy' is part of our commitment to keeping children 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 they 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

Coleshill Heath School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. Every member of staff recognises that safeguarding against radicalisation and extremism is no different to safeguarding against any other vulnerability in today's society.

The Prevent Policy sets out our beliefs, strategies and procedures to protect susceptible individuals from being radicalised or exposed to extremist views, by identifying who they are and promptly providing them with support.

At Coleshill Heath School we ensure that through our school vision, values, rules, diverse curriculum and teaching we promote tolerance and respect for all cultures, faiths and lifestyles. The governing body also ensures that this ethos is reflected and implemented effectively in school policy and practice and that there are effective risk assessments in place to safeguard and promote students' welfare.

We have a duty to prepare our children for life in modern Britain and to keep them safe. Pupils who attend our school have the right to learn 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
- Keeping Children Safe in Education
- Prevent Duty Guidance
- Working together to Safeguard Children

These are updated on a regular basis and can be found on the DfE website.

Non-statutory Guidance

- Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools: Departmental advice for maintained schools, (DfE 2014).

Some Related Policies

- Acceptable use of Cameras and Mobile Devices Policy
- Social Media Policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Code of Employee Conduct
- Whistleblowing 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 Governing Body

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

The governing body has a nominated person, Ms S Vogel our Safeguarding Governor, who will liaise with the Headteacher and Lead Designated Safeguarding Lead (Miss N Fowles), Deputy Safeguarding Leads (Miss Budd and Mr Russell) and Operational Safeguarding Leads (Miss Moore and Mrs Catlow) and other staff about issues to do with protecting children 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 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.

Role of Designated Safeguarding Leads

It is the role of the designated safeguarding leads to:

- 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 susceptible 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.

Role of Staff

It is the role of staff to understand the issues of 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.

Coleshill Heath School is a values-based learning community. Our values support the development of the whole child as a reflective learner within a calm, caring, happy and purposeful atmosphere. Teaching the schools 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.

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.

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. All reasonable steps have been taken to safeguard our children. The filtering and monitoring systems used in Solihull schools block inappropriate content, including extremist content.

Coleshill Heath School has demonstrated a commitment to keeping children safe online by investing in a subscription to National Online Safety which provides online safety education for the whole school community. We believe that when children go online to learn, to communicate or to play, they should be able to do so safely.

Staff Training

Staff have access to DfE Prevent awareness eLearning 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. Staff are updated as necessary in weekly briefings. Further information can be found on Solgrid.

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*. Vetting and barring checks are undertaken on relevant people, including governors and volunteers.

Visitors

Visitors to the school are made aware of our safeguarding and child protection policies and are given information about what to do if they are concerned about any aspect of child welfare.

- Safeguarding Children Quick Reference for School Staff or Volunteers
- Information for Visitors

Disclosure Barring Service (DBS), List 99 Barring checks need to be seen or completed and photo ID shown before entering the school. We follow processes and procedures which are approved by the Local Authority and checked on a regular basis.

Signs of Vulnerability

There are no known definitive indicators that a young person is susceptible 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 identity
- victim or witness to race or hate crimes
- rejection by peers, family, social groups or faith

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
- 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 (but there are also very powerful narratives, programs and networks that young people can come across online so involvement with particular groups may not be apparent)
- 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.

Referral Process

Staff and visitors to the school must refer all concerns about children and young people who show signs of vulnerability or radicalisation must be passed to the Designated Safeguarding Leads, using the usual methods for reporting other safeguarding concerns.

When there are significant concerns about a pupil the Designated Safeguarding Lead in liaison with the Headteacher will make a referral to:

- CTU-GATEWAY@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk
- SOLIHULL MASH 0121 788 4300

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be monitored by the governing body at least annually.

This is not a statutory policy and will be reviewed at an appropriate time not later than two years after ratification by the governing body.

Policy Name:	PREVENT
Staff Responsible:	Miss Fowles / Miss Budd / Mr Russell / Mrs Catlow / Miss Moore
Governor Responsible:	Chair / Ms S Vogel, Safeguarding Governor / All
Date for Review:	July 2025
Signed Headteacher:	Miss N Fowles
Signed Chair of Governors:	Mrs M Fitter
Date Approved:	Full Governing Board – 11 th July 2024

Prevent Statement

Coleshill Heath School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. As a school we recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation is no different from safeguarding against any other vulnerability. All staff are expected to uphold and promote the fundamental principles of British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

AIMS AND PRINCIPLES

The main aims of this statement are to ensure that all 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. The principle objectives are that:

- All Staff and Governors will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- All Staff and Governors will know what the school policy is on anti-radicalisation and extremism and will follow the policy when issues arise.
- All parents 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.

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.

PROCEDURES FOR REFERRALS

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at Coleshill Heath School to date, it is important for us to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues which affect the region in which we teach. Staff are reminded to suspend any professional disbelief that instances of radicalisation 'could not happen here' and to refer any concerns through the appropriate channels (currently via the Child Protection and Safeguarding Leads and Headteacher).

We believe that it is possible to intervene to protect people who are susceptible. 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 practice.

The Designated Leads for Child Protection and Safeguarding and the Headteacher will deal swiftly with any referrals made by staff or with concerns reported by staff.

The Designated Leads for Child Protection and Safeguarding and the Headteacher 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.

THE ROLE OF THE CURRICULUM

Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. 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. 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 PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) and RE provision is embedded across the curriculum, and underpins the ethos of the school. Teaching the schools' 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. 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.

Role of Governing Body

The Governing Body of our School will undertake appropriate training to ensure that they are clear about their role and the parameters of their responsibilities as Governors, including their statutory safeguarding duties. The Governing Body of our school will support the ethos and values of our school and will support the school in tackling extremism and radicalisation. In line with the provisions set out in the DfE guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' the governing body will challenge the school's senior management team on the delivery of this policy and monitor its effectiveness. Governors will review this policy regularly (every year) and may amend and adopt it outside of this time frame in accordance with any new legislation or guidance or in response to any quality assurance recommendations pertaining to the delivery of this policy and the overall safeguarding arrangements made.

Recruitment

The arrangements for recruiting all staff, permanent and volunteers, to our school will follow Solihull's guidance for safer recruitment best practice in education settings, including, but not limited to, ensuring that DBS checks are always made at the appropriate level, that references are always received and checked and that we complete and maintain a single central record of such vetting checks. We will apply safer recruitment best practice principles and sound employment practice in general and in doing so will deny opportunities for inappropriate recruitment or advancement. We will be alert to the possibility that persons may seek to gain positions within our school so as to unduly influence our school's character and ethos. We are aware that such persons seek to limit the opportunities for our pupils thereby rendering them **susceptible** to extremist views and radicalisation as a consequence. Therefore, by adhering to safer recruitment best practice techniques and by ensuring that there is an ongoing culture of vigilance within our school and staff team we will minimise the opportunities for extremist views to prevail.

STAFF TRAINING

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.

Links to other policies:

- Safeguarding and Child Protection
- Positive Behaviour
- Online Safety

Our school's Policy also draws upon the guidance contained in the DfE Guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'; Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015; Prevent Duty Guidance 2015; Working Together to Safeguard Children.

These are updated on a regular basis and can be found on the DfE website.

Procedures for referrals:

Any colleague with concerns will speak to the Child Protection and Safeguarding Leads or the Headteacher. The concern will be logged and a timeline started. The Borough Prevent Co-ordinator will be contacted.

Useful Numbers/Websites:

DfE helpline: 0207 340 7264

DfE e-mail: counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk

Prevent Duty Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance#full-publication-update-history> – see all updates

Channel Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/channel-guidance>

Anti-Terrorist Hotline 0800 789 321 available 24/7 to members of the public

Online training for staff and volunteers:

<https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/edu/screen1.html>

Solihull Multi-Agency Referral Form:

<https://eservices.solihull.gov.uk/ChildrensSocialWorkServiceReferral/>

CTU_gateway@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk

CTU Prevent Hub: 0121 251 0241

Preventing children and young people being drawn into extremism: how to address concerns around the welfare of an individual or groups of children and young people

Individual support – signs or behaviour that may cause concern and require a response



**First Question: Is it an emergency? – PRIORITY ACTION REQUIRED – DIAL 999 in the first instance
If not follow referral process below**

Inform Prevent Lead (headteacher or member of senior team who manages this area). The Prevent Lead undertakes a risk assessment of all circumstances, consults appropriately prior to action and considers whether additional support is required.

Situation to be recorded carefully at every stage in Child Protection policy/Safeguarding policy.

- If child is at risk of significant harm, a referral to MASH must be undertaken in line with the school child protection policy procedures (this includes imminent travel), and a referral also needs to be made to the Prevent inbox. On line MASH referral form: <https://eservices.solihull.gov.uk/ChildrenSocialWorkServiceReferral/>
- LSCP procedures should be consulted: [2.2 Safeguarding children and young people against radicalisation and violent extremism | West Midlands Safeguarding Children Group \(procedures.org.uk\)](#)
- A referral to the WMCTU Prevent inbox needs to be made using the national referral form.
- Consider how to best meet the needs of pupil(s), parent/carer and the school.
- Make a careful assessment of all the circumstances. Document and review decision making.

WMCTU Prevent Hub:
PREVENT REFERRAL
ctu_gateway@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk
 Contacts for Support:
 Tel: 0121 251 0241
 (Monday – Friday – 8am - 6pm)
[National referral form](#)



Supportive interaction as appropriate

Channel Project

The Police are the only agency who can make a referral in to Channel. Channel is the process by which structured interventions are implemented for vulnerable individuals identified as needing support. This is delivered through a multi-agency approach.

Channel Referral Pathway

If you have concerns about a child or young person and feel a multi-agency response is required, a referral must be made through the MASH process if the child is at risk of significant harm, and through the WMCTU Prevent Inbox.

Channel can support children and young people before they reach crisis point. It is a way of giving support early to prevent problems later on. Channel brings the different agencies who are involved with a child together so they can share information.





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