



eastbury
primary
school



Partnership Learning



Prevent Policy Statement

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Prevent Policy Statement

Eastbury Primary 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 policy statement 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. The principal 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 steps 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.

Extremism can be defined as “holding of extreme opinions: the holding of extreme political or religious views or the taking of extreme actions on the basis of those views”. “Extremism is 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” (HM Government Prevent Strategy 2011)

‘**Vulnerability**’ describes the condition of being capable of being injured; difficult to defend; open to moral or ideological attack. Within Prevent, the word describes factors and characteristics associated with being susceptible to radicalisation.

STRATEGIES FOR PREVENTING EXTREMISM

The Office for Security & Counter Terrorism works to counter the threat from terrorism and their work is detailed in the counter terrorism strategy CONTEST. This strategy is based on four areas of work:

Pursue	To stop terrorist attacks
Prevent	To stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism
Protect	To strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack
Prepare	To mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack

Respond as a school to the threat of violent extremist groups and the risks for young people including:

Provide information about what can cause violent extremism, about preventative actions taking place locally and nationally and where we can get additional information and advice. Help schools understand the positive contribution they can make to empower young people to create communities that are more resilient to extremism, and protecting the wellbeing of particular pupils or groups who may be vulnerable to being drawn into violent extremist activity. Provide advice on managing risks and responding to incidents locally, nationally or internationally that might have an impact on the school community.

The school will use these principles to guide our work in all areas including building on our work in: Promoting pupil wellbeing, equalities and community cohesion. Building the resilience of the school, working with partners, to prevent pupils becoming the victims or causes of harm. Working with other agencies and parents to build community networks of support for the school

- **Respond** through teaching, learning, and the assembly / tutor time programme to the threat of violent extremist groups and the risks for young people. Spotting the signs of grooming both online and off and empower our pupils to be both personally and digitally resilient.
- **Provide information** for pupils and parents about preventative actions taking place locally and nationally and where we can get additional information and advice.
- Help our pupils to understand the **positive contribution** they can make to respecting, protecting and promoting British values. Empower our pupils to create

communities that are more resilient to extremism, and **protect the wellbeing** of particular pupils or groups who may be more vulnerable to being drawn into violent extremist activity.

The school will use these principles to guide our work in all areas including building on our work in:

- Promoting pupil wellbeing, equalities, British values and community cohesion
- Building the resilience of the school, working with partners, to prevent pupils becoming the victims or causes of harm.
- Working with other agencies and parents to build community networks of support for the school.

As part of wider safeguarding responsibilities school staff will be alert to:

- Disclosures by pupils of their exposure to the extremist actions, views or materials of others outside of school, such as in their homes or community groups, especially where pupils have not actively sought these out.
- Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images
- Pupils accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites
- Pupils being exposed to fake propaganda materials designed to incite.
- Parental reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance
- Partner schools, local authority services, and police reports of issues affecting pupils in other schools or settings
- Pupils voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives
- Use of extremist or 'hate' terms to exclude others or incite violence
- Intolerance of difference, whether secular or religious or, in line with our equalities policy, views based on, but not exclusive to, gender, disability, homophobia, race, colour or culture
- Attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others
- Recognising that the media can incorrectly increase public perceptions locally of an increase in disorder that can exacerbate grievances.
- The risk of covert extremist activity, which is harder to challenge, and the risk of self-radicalisation through access to internet sites.
- A rising trend in far right ideology within the borough.
- White supremacist right wing extremist views and Islamic extremist views.

PROCEDURES FOR REFERRALS

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at Eastbury Primary 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 Designated Safeguarding Lead or Headteacher).

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 practice.

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

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.

Any colleague with concerns will speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (Mrs Trench) or the Headteacher. The concern will be logged and a timeline started. The Borough Prevent Coordinator will be contacted.

Our school will closely follow any locally agreed procedure as set out by the Local Authority and/or our Safeguarding Children Board's agreed processes and criteria for safeguarding individuals vulnerable to extremism and radicalisation. In the event of concerns about a person becoming radicalised staff and pupils will initially refer to the designated safeguard lead for Prevent who will then consider the use of the Channel process.

Channel is a bespoke panel who meet to address issues of individuals who have been identified as being at risk of radicalisation but have not committed any terrorism offence. The Channel Panel meet when a referral has been made and referrals can be made by anyone.

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), 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.

THE ROLE OF THE 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 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 2023' the governing body will challenge the school's senior management team on the delivery of this policy and monitor its effectiveness.

RECRUITMENT

The arrangements for recruiting all staff, permanent and volunteers, to our school will follow 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 vulnerable 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:

- Child Protection
- Anti-bullying policy

- Behaviour policy
- Computing and ICT policy

Our school's steps also draw upon the guidance contained in the DfE Guidance "Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2023"; and "Prevent: Resources Guide", "Tackling Extremism in the UK", DfE's "Teaching Approaches that help Build Resilience to Extremism among Young People".

USEFUL WEBSITES:

Prevent Duty Guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>

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