ECCLESTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

incorporating

Beechbuds Pre-School

Prevent Duty Policy

Inspiring independent learners to thrive in a changing world

Introduction

At Eccleston Primary School, we are fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our 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 Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation 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.

LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES

This policy should be read in conjunction with other school policies including:
Whole School Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
Equality Policy
Anti-Bullying Policy
Behaviour Policy
Online Safety Policy

National Guidelines:

PREVENT Strategy HM Gov
Keeping Children Safe in Education DfE Sep 2025
Working Together to Safeguard Children HM Gov

AIMS AND PRINCIPLES

The Prevent Duty 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:

- teaching staff and governors will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are/is and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- teaching staff and governors will know what the school policy is on tackling extremism and radicalisation and will follow the policy guidance swiftly when issues arise.
- will understand the dangers of radicalisation and exposure to extremist views; building resilience against these and knowing what to do if they experience them.
- 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:

- 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.
- derogatory names for another group.
- 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

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at Eccleston 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 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, Deputy Headteacher and Early Years Leader are trained as Designated Senior Leads (DSL) for Child Protection and Safeguarding and will deal swiftly with any referrals made by staff or with concerns reported by staff.

The Head Teacher and Senior Leadership Team 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 (see appendix 1 – Dealing with referrals)

LEADERS AND STAFF AND GOVERNORS

The Head Teacher and all members of the SLT are the leaders for referrals relating to extremism and radicalisation. In the unlikely event that no SLT members and the Head Teacher are not available, all staff know the channels by which to make referrals via the safeguarding board in the staffroom.

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 SLT will work in conjunction with external agencies to decide the best course of action to address concerns which arise.

THE ROLE OF THE CURRICULUM

Our school values and ethos promote the values of fairness, kindness, resilience, relationships and resourcefulness.

Our curriculum is 'broad and balanced' and promotes the values of 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 PSHE provision and Religious Education is embedded across the curriculum. 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

Through INSET and Staff Meeting 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.

The designated safeguarding lead and deputy safeguarding leads attend safeguarding update training every two years with updates passed on to staff.

All staff receive safeguarding training annually which will include training on extremism and radicalisation.

VISITORS AND THE USE OF SCHOOL PREMISES

If any member of staff wishes to invite a visitor in the school, they must first discuss this with the Deputy Headteacher, Headteacher or School Business Manager. Only after agreement from the Head Teacher can the visitor enter school and then they will be subject to Safeguarding Checks including DBS checks and photo identification.

Upon arriving at the school, all visitors including contractors, will read the safeguarding guidance and be made aware of who the DSLs 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.

Appendix 1 – 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 Designated Safeguarding Lead (Mrs E Speakman) or if unavailable the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (Mrs K Cranage, Mrs K Thomas, Mrs A Duckworth and Mrs C Edwards).

All incidents will be fully investigated and recorded in line with Behaviour Policy and records will be kept in line with procedures for any other safeguarding incident. Parents and carers will be contacted and the incident discussed, 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 on CPOMS.

The DSL 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 discussed and referred to Children's Social Care on 0300 1236720.

In the event of a referral relating to serious concerns about potential radicalisation or extremism, the school will also contact Lancashire Police Counter Terrorism Unit (CTU) Security and Partnership Office for our locality

Review of the Prevent Duty Policy
Reviewed: December 2026
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