



## **Highfield Littleport Academy Statement on preventing radicalisation**

Highfield Littleport Academy's Prevent Strategy has been written in response to and in line with government guidance and forms part of the government's counter terrorism strategy which seeks to:

Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and aspects of extremism, and the threat faced from those who promote these views

Provide practical help to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support

Work with a wide range of sectors where there are risks of radicalisation which need to be addressed, including education, criminal justice, faith, charities, the internet and health

All schools are required by law to teach a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes the spiritual, moral and cultural development of students and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.

The purpose of Highfield Littleport's Prevent Strategy is to protect students from harm and to ensure that they are taught in a way that is consistent with the law and British values. To this end it acts to;

- Raise awareness
- Provide information
- Enable learners to make a positive contribution
- Safeguard young people

### **Risk**

The current threat from extremism and radicalisation in the UK can include the exploitation of vulnerable people, to involve them in terrorism or in activity in support of terrorism. The normalisation of extreme views may also make children and young people vulnerable to future manipulation and exploitation. Highfield Littleport is clear that this exploitation and radicalisation should be viewed as a safeguarding concern and that both Staff and Governors, under their duty of care for students, have explicit responsibilities to safeguard pupils from the risk of falling under the influence of extremist groups and individuals and potentially even being drawn into terrorism. The Staff are alert to the potential dangers of institutional complacency and/or suspended professional disbelief – 'it could not happen here' – and will put in place strategies to ensure that governors, staff, parents and pupils understand the potential threat and are aware of the indicators of vulnerability.



In discharging this duty of care, the school seeks to protect children and young people against the messages of all violent extremism delivered using any means or medium to express views which:

- Encourage, justify or glorify political, religious, sexist or racist violence
- Belong to rigid and narrow ideologies that are intolerant of diversity and so leave those who hold them vulnerable to future radicalization
- Seek to provoke others to terrorist acts
- Encourage other serious criminal activity or seek to provoke others to serious criminal acts
- Foster hatred which might lead to inter-community violence in the UK.

### **What has already been done to address this risk?**

Within our school, children participate in a curriculum that promotes active learning and develops personal thinking skills. The focus on active learning and questioning enables students to explore social and emotional aspects of learning throughout the curriculum. The school actively promotes diversity and shared values between the local school communities, the community local to each individual school, the national and global community. We do this by celebrating our own school values. These values form the basis of our students understanding of wider communities and this is embedded throughout school life.

The schools challenge all prejudices recognising students who are at risk of isolation. The emphasis on pastoral care, the use of school agreed policies, school assemblies, our bespoke PSHE Scheme of Work and enrichment activities ensure that the schools are a safe place to learn and socialise.

The school has already undertaken a range of activities / initiatives to raise awareness of the issues with both staff and pupils and to ensure that the school community understands what to do and who to go to if they have any concerns around the potential radicalisation of a member of the school community. These include:

- The Designated Person for Safeguarding has attended the Prevent Strategy training run by the Local Authority and the Police.
- A staff session on Prevent Training, designed to increase confidence in identifying pupils at risk of being drawn into terrorism on a yearly basis issued by HM Government
- A plan for some governors to attend similar training
- IT filtering systems are used both passively to block users from accessing inappropriate websites/fora and proactively to identify the use of a library of key words by users of school equipment which can then be acted on quickly and effectively
- A Prevent Single Point of Contact (SPOC) has been identified to take the lead within the organisation for safeguarding in relation to protecting individuals from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism. Within Highfield Littleport this is Yvonne Skillern, Head of School.



- A newly renewed Safeguarding Policy that takes account of the Prevent Strategy
- Regular liaison with local organisations to ensure that good partnership links exist and that information is regularly shared

**What we plan to do in the future?**

- Put in place any strategies that are indicated in the light of the risk assessment referred to above
- Provide Prevent training for new staff/governors as part of their induction
- Ensure that all staff, governors, pupils and parents are aware of the indicators of vulnerability
- Foster a climate that ensures that the whole school community takes the threat of radicalisation seriously

**Further information:**

Please come and talk to the school if you have any concerns or questions about our role in the wider UK PREVENT strategy.

DFE Guidance: [Preventing children from radicalisation](#)

Home Office: [Prevent duty guidance from England](#)