



Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy

Applicable to:	✓	Astley Community High School
	✓	Seaton Sluice Middle School
	✓	Whytrig Middle School
Approval body:	Pupil Support Committee	

Status:

Statutory policy or document	No
Review frequency	Governing Body to determine
Approval by	Governing Body to determine

Publication:

Statutory requirement to publish on school website	No
Agreed to publish on school website	Yes

Review:

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Author	Creation Date	Version	Status
Head of School WMS (JS)	26 January 2016	1.0	Approved version for SVF adapted from NCC model policy (October 2015)
Changed by	Revision Date		
Head of School WMS (JS)	27 March 2017	1.1	Amended document from 2015 version
Business Manager (BW)	7 January 2019	1.2	Reviewed and updated links to additional guidance
Business Manager (BW)	1 February 2019	2.0	Final approved version for publication
Business Director (BW)	21 March 2022	2.1	Fully updated, amended review frequency and renamed in line with NCC model policy (September 2021)
Business Director (BW)	4 April 2022	3.0	Final approved version for publication
Business Director (BW)	17 February 2025	3.1	Three year review; updated DSL information at Appendix A
Business Director (BW)	28 April 2025	4.0	Final approved version for publication

1 Purpose

- 1.1 This 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.
- 1.2 Schools have an important part to play in both educating children and young people about extremism and recognising when pupils start to become radicalised. From 1 July 2015, schools became subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 ("CTSA 2015") in exercising their functions, "...to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism".
- 1.3 Safeguarding children from all risks of harm, including those children in the EYFS, is an important part of a school's work and protecting them from extremism is one aspect of that. The duty to prevent children and young people being radicalised is set out in the following documents:
 - [Counter Terrorism & Security Act 2015](#)
 - [Keeping children safe in education](#)
 - [Working together to safeguard children](#)
 - [Prevent duty guidance for England and Wales](#)
 - [The prevent duty: departmental advice for schools and childcare providers](#)
 - [The use of social media for online radicalisation](#)
- 1.4 Relevant non-statutory guidance includes:
 - [Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools: Departmental advice for maintained schools](#)
 - [Improving the spiritual, moral, social and cultural \(SMSC\) development of pupils: supplementary information](#)

2 Definitions

- 2.1 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.
- 2.2 Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.
- 2.3 British Values are democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

3 Ethos

- 3.1 We ensure that through our federation's vision, aims, rules, diverse curriculum and teaching, we promote tolerance and respect for all cultures, faiths and lifestyles.
- 3.2 The governing body will also ensure that this ethos is reflected and implemented effectively through school policy and practice and that there is an effective suite of safeguarding policies in place to safeguard and promote pupils' welfare. We have a duty to prepare our pupils for life in modern Britain and to keep them safe. Everyone within the federation has the right to learn and work in safety. We do not tolerate

bullying of any kind and will challenge derogatory language and behaviour towards others.

4 Roles and responsibilities

4.1 The governing body will:

- ensure that the federation meets its statutory duties with regard to preventing radicalisation
- ensure that this policy is understood and effectively implemented by staff throughout the federation
- ensure that the Designated Safeguarding Leads undergo appropriate Prevent duty training which is refreshed at least every three years
- ensure that the federation's Prevent policies and procedures and general safeguarding arrangements take into account the policies and procedures of Northumberland Strategic Safeguarding Partners (NSSP)

4.2 The Executive Headteacher will:

- ensure that the federation and its staff respond to preventing radicalisation on a day-to-day basis
- ensure that each school's curriculum addresses the issues involved in radicalisation
- ensure that staff conduct is consistent with preventing radicalisation

4.3 The Designated Safeguarding Leads will:

- ensure that staff understand the issues of radicalisation, that they are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns
- receive safeguarding concerns about pupils who may be vulnerable 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

4.4 It is the role of all staff to:

- understand the issues of radicalisation
- be able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation
- know how to refer their concerns.

4.5 The federation will conduct an annual review of safeguarding (S175), which includes each school's compliance with its Prevent Duty.

5 Curriculum

5.1 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. Our values support the development of the whole child as a reflective learner within a safe respectful learning environment. Teaching the federation's 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.

6 Internet safety

- 6.1 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. The federation's filtering systems block inappropriate content, including extremist content. Where staff, pupils or visitors find unblocked extremist content they must report it to a senior member of staff.
- 6.2 We are aware that children and young people have access to unfiltered internet when using their mobile phones, and staff are alert to the need for vigilance when pupils are using personal devices.
- 6.3 The federation's ICT and Internet Acceptable Use Policy refers to preventing radicalisation and related extremist content. Pupils and staff know how to report internet content that is inappropriate or of concern.

7 Staff training

- 7.1 Staff will be given training to help them understand the issues of radicalisation, so that they are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns. This information also forms part of annual safeguarding training.

8 Safer recruitment

- 8.1 We ensure that the staff we appoint to the federation are suitable, our recruitment procedures are rigorous and we follow the statutory guidance published in Keeping Children Safe in Education. Vetting and barring checks are undertaken on relevant people, including governors and volunteers.

9 Visitors

- 9.1 Visitors are made aware of the federation's Child Protection Policy on arrival at the school and are given information about what to do if they are concerned about any aspect of child welfare. We undertake due diligence to ensure that visiting speakers are appropriate. Speakers will be supervised at all times and will not be allowed to speak to pupils without a member of staff being present. Staff must not invite speakers into school without first obtaining permission from the Executive Headteacher.

10 Signs of vulnerability

- 10.1 There are no known definitive indicators that a young person is vulnerable 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

11 Recognising extremism

11.1 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 outside school
- 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 (there are also very powerful narratives, programmes 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

12 Referral process

- 12.1 Staff and visitors must refer all concerns about pupils who show signs of vulnerability or radicalisation to the Designated Safeguarding Lead using the usual methods for reporting other safeguarding concerns.
- 12.2 When there are significant concerns about a pupil, the Designated Safeguarding Lead in liaison with the Executive Headteacher will make a referral to the appropriate body.

Appendix A: Useful contacts

Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL)	richard.goodman@svf.org.uk (ACHS) karen.mcsparron@svf.org.uk (SSMS) kath.lennon@svf.org.uk (WMS)
Designated Safeguarding Leads (Deputy DSL)	ACHS steve.henderson@svf.org.uk john.hamilton@svf.org.uk bex.hewitson@svf.org.uk nat.gilhooley@svf.org.uk ali.bartlett@svf.org.uk SSMS katie.mason@svf.org.uk katie.middlemiss@svf.org.uk clare.tennant@svf.org.uk WMS jon.souter@svf.org.uk bev.telfer@svf.org.uk
Chair of Governors and Safeguarding Link	sdungworth@svf.org.uk
Northumberland Strategic Safeguarding Partnership procedures manual	https://www.proceduresonline.com/northumberlandcs/index.html
Northumberland Prevent Coordinator	prevent@northumberland.gov.uk
Northumberland Prevent Lead - Children's Services	adele.wright@northumberland.gov.uk
Northumberland Prevent Lead - Adult Services	karen.wright01@northumberland.gov.uk
Schools' Safeguarding Team	carol.leckie@northumberland.gov.uk
Special Branch	specialbranch@northumbria.pnn.police.uk
OneCall - where there is a risk of immediate serious harm to a child a referral should be made to children's social care immediately by the DSL	01670 536400 childrentriage@northumberland.gov.uk safeguarding.triage@northumbria-healthcare.nhs.uk
If a child is in immediate danger	Emergency 999 / Non-Emergency 101
NSPCC 24/7	0808 800 5000/88858 / help@nspcc.org.uk
DfE Prevent Helpline for schools/parents	020 7340 7264 (non-emergency) counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk
The Lucy Faithfull Foundation	0800 1000 900 / help@stopitnow.org.uk
Parents Protect	www.parentsprotect.co.uk
National Bullying Helpline	0845 22 55 787