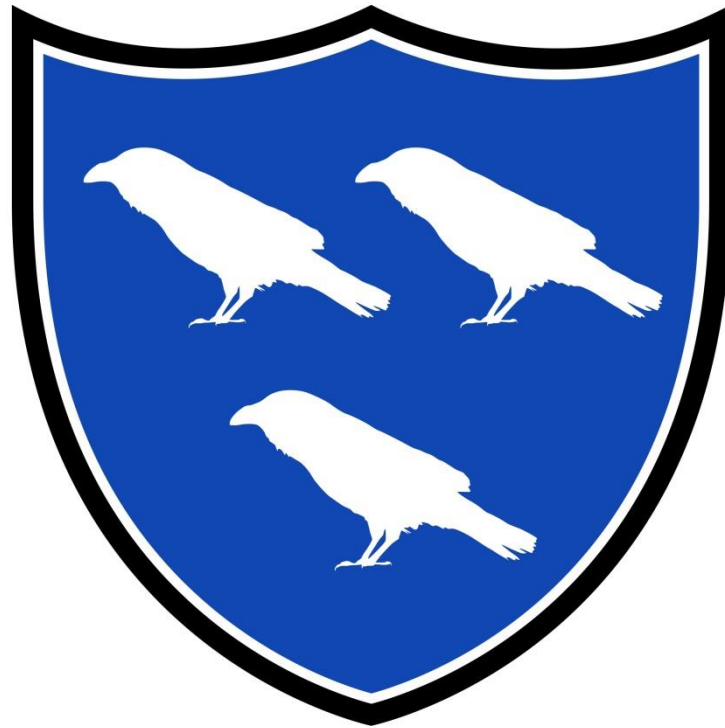


# Valley Primary School



## Prevent Policy

*Valley Primary School is stronger thanks to our open, multi-faith and ethnically-diverse school community. As a school, we take every opportunity to celebrate this diversity together and always aim to integrate and engage every pupil and their family within the school and wider community. Equally, Valley Primary School, denounces extremism, radical ideology and acts of terrorism of every kind. The Governors and staff of the school will do everything possible to protect its pupils and their families from the threat of extremist thinking and radicalisation.*

Updated: September 2020

Review Date: September 2023

Valley Primary 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 Tackling of 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.

The following national guidelines should be read when working with this policy;

- PREVENT Strategy HM Government
- The Prevent Duty DfE June 2015 (Revised 2019)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education DfE 2020
- Working Together to Safeguard Children HM Government 2018.

## **Objectives and Aims**

Valley Primary School's Prevent 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:

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

The aims of this policy are:

- to ensure that staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalisation;
- that staff overcome professional disbelief that such issues will not happen here
- to ensure that we work alongside other professional bodies and agencies to ensure that our pupils are safe from harm.

## **Definitions**

### **Extremism**

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**

Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

## **Who is at Risk?**

There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to a terrorist ideology. As with other safeguarding risks, staff should be alert to changes in children's or parents' behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Individuals who are at risk of radicalisation may display different signs or seek to hide their views.

Every young person, including the very young, may be vulnerable to radicalisation by others, whether in the family or outside, and display concerning behaviour. The Prevent Duty does not require teachers or childcare providers to carry out unnecessary intrusion into family life but as with any other safeguarding risk they must take action when they observe behaviour of concern.

### **Signs to look out for in pupils:**

- changing their behaviour or appearance
- adopting styles of clothes associated with groups with whom they have had no previous connection – this could be faith or political based
- becoming isolated from friends, peers or family members
- becoming involved with groups of pupils who have strong ideological ideas
- viewing websites which contain extremist ideologies or symbols
- attempting to recruit others to an extremist ideology or cause
- vocalising extremist ideologies, using extremist language
- questioning identity and sense of belonging
- glorifying current terrorist activity seen in the media
- displaying extreme behaviour related to ideology and / or religion
- requesting extended holidays to regions known to be unsafe or places not associated with the family
- possessing or discussing extremist material
- family not being aware of absences from classes.

### **Other signs to be aware of:**

- family raising additional concerns about the individual and their behaviour
- identifying extremist literature being distributed by pupils or external visitors
- overhearing extremist language and conversations
- concerns about known vulnerable pupils being targeted inside or outside the institution
- use of prayer facilities which are contrary to institution policy
- groups of unknown people gathering close to the school site, campaigning or fund raising for known extremist, or unknown organisations
- stalls / fund raising activities at PTA events which haven't been authorised through existing processes
- study of extremist websites or literature unless part of genuine academic study.

## **What Do You Do When You Have a Concern?**

If any member of staff has a concern about a pupil or their family relating to extremism or radicalisation, they should follow the school's normal safeguarding procedures and discuss these concerns with one of the school's Designated Safeguarding Leads.

In some circumstances, it may be appropriate to discuss concerns with Bromley Children's Social Care and a referral might be needed.

Any staff member is entitled to make a referral to Bromley Children's Social Care but good practice dictates that one of the school's DSLs are informed of any referral made.

Referral & Assessment Team Phone: 020 8461 7373 / 7379 / 7026 / 7404

London Borough of Bromley Admin: 0208 461 7309 / 7014 / 7428

Civic Centre, St Blaise E-mail: [Mash@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:Mash@bromley.gov.uk)

Stockwell Close

Bromley BR1 3UH Fax: 0208 313 4400

Emergency Duty Team (at weekends and outside normal working hours)

Phone: 020 8464 4848

Concerns relating to extremism and radicalisation can also be discussed with the local Prevent Engagement Officer.

## **Our Approach at Valley**

We will all strive to eradicate the myths and assumptions that can lead to some young people becoming alienated and disempowered, especially where the narrow approaches children may experience elsewhere may make it harder for them to challenge or question these radical influences. In our school this will be achieved by good teaching, primarily via PSHCE and circle times and assemblies, and in the overall ethos and the promotion of our Core Values.

We will also work with local partners, families and communities in our efforts to ensure our school understands and embraces our local context and values in challenging extremist views and to assist in the broadening of our pupil's experiences and horizons. We will help support pupils who may be vulnerable to such influences as part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities and where we believe a pupil is being directly affected by extremist materials or influences we will ensure that that pupil is offered mentoring. Additionally in such instances our school will seek external support from appropriate local services working to prevent extremism.

## **The Promotion of Fundamental British Values**

Valley Primary School is committed to working closely and in harmony with its community and celebrating the diversity of the UK. We aim to prepare children for life in modern Britain and to ensure that our school ethos, curriculum and approaches to teaching and learning reflect and promote British values.

We recognise that these values are not exclusive to being British and that they have come to be accepted throughout the democratic world as the method of creating an orderly society in which individual members can feel safe, valued and can contribute to for the good of themselves and others.

We work alongside our local community and recognise the variety of religious beliefs within it. We take children outside the school to take part in local events and meet different members of the community to appreciate the valuable contributions they make.

We understand the role that our school has in helping prevent radicalisation and supporting our children in developing a world view recognising Britain's place within it. The four British values are:

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

We have a range of opportunities for children to explore and learn about British Values and some of these are recorded in the class Big Books for PSHCE, a few examples are:

### **Democracy**

We have an elected School Council which meets regularly to discuss issues raised in class council meetings. Every child on the School Council is voted in by their class, after they have listened to the candidates' nomination speeches.

Democracy is also explored through subjects such as History, and PSHCE.

## **The Rule of Law**

At Valley, school rules are subsumed within our deep commitment to our Core Values which are consistently reinforced. We believe that an understanding of the values underpinning rules promotes a more intrinsic commitment to them - doing the right thing because it's right, rather than as a way of avoiding punishment.

In a wider, societal sense, children are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service help reinforce this message.

## **Individual Liberty**

Pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school, we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make informed choices, through a safe environment and an empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely and appropriately, for example through our e-Safety and PSHE lessons.

As a whole school, we annually remember the sacrifices of those defending liberty in WW1 & WW2, as well as the struggle of different groups for equality e.g. through Black History Month.

## **Mutual Respect**

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values and our approach to behaviour based rooted in the restorative justice model. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect and care.

## **Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs**

Valley is a diverse school. We actively promote diversity through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures. Religious Education lessons and PHSCE lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others, learning about and from different faiths and cultures. Members of different faiths and religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. The children visit places of worship that are important to different faiths.

## **Risk Assessment**

As part of the school's Risk Register, the Governors and Head Teacher assess the risk to staff and pupils being radicalised or displaying extremist views. The register is updated termly or when local, National or global events dictate. In assessing the risk found within the local area, the Head Teacher attempts to meet annually with the local Police Prevent Officer to fully understand the different extremist views found within the community.

## **Use of External Agencies and Speakers**

At Valley Primary School, we encourage the use of external agencies or speakers to enrich the experiences of our pupils; however we will positively vet those external agencies, individuals or speakers who we engage to provide such learning opportunities or experiences for our pupils. Such vetting is to ensure that we do not unwittingly use agencies that contradict each other with their messages or that are inconsistent with, or are in complete opposition to, the school's values and ethos. We must be aware that in some instances the work of external agencies may not directly be connected with the rest of the school curriculum so we need to ensure that this work is of benefit to pupils.

Our school will assess the suitability and effectiveness of input from external agencies or individuals to ensure that:

- Any messages communicated to pupils are consistent with the ethos of the school and do not marginalise any communities, groups or individuals
- Any messages do not seek to glorify criminal activity or violent extremism or seek to radicalise pupils through extreme or narrow views of faith, religion or culture or other ideologies
- Activities are properly embedded in the curriculum and clearly mapped to schemes of work to avoid contradictory messages or duplication
- Activities are matched to the needs of pupils
- Activities are carefully evaluated by schools to ensure that they are effective

We recognise, however, that the ethos of our school is to encourage pupils to understand opposing views and ideologies, appropriate to their age, understanding and abilities, and to be able to actively engage with them in informed debate, and we may use external agencies or speakers to facilitate and support this.

Therefore by delivering a broad and balanced curriculum, augmented by the use of external sources where appropriate, we will strive to ensure our pupils recognise risk and build resilience to manage any such risk themselves where appropriate to their age and ability but also to help pupils develop the critical thinking skills needed to engage in informed debate. In all cases of external speakers / companies, staff co-ordinating the visit must ask the visitors to complete the school-standard Vetting Form before the day of the visit and issue them with the Visiting Speaker Agreement. (Appendix 1 & 2)

### **IT Policy**

Staff at Valley Primary School are aware of the increased risk of online radicalisation where extremist groups look to radicalise young people through the use of social media and the internet.

The school has a filtering system to block inappropriate material and all pupils receive e-safety lessons which teaches them how to assess the authenticity of online information and appropriate reporting practices when they encounter harmful and upsetting online material.

The school's IT Team carries out regular checks on the filtering information and the sites that have been blocked.

### **Training**

All staff will undertake the Channel online training course and will be updated with relevant guidance relating to the Prevent Duty on an annual basis.

The Head Teacher, along with the school's Safeguarding Governor will undertake WRAP training.

### **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, 2020' the Governing Body will challenge the school's senior leadership team on the delivery of this policy and monitor its effectiveness.

The Governing Body will request details of any referrals made or concerns raised to be included in the Head Teacher's report at full Governing Body meetings.

Governors will review this policy regularly every two years and may amend and adopt it outside of this timeframe 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.

## **Working with Parents / Community**

Our school is stronger thanks to our open, multi-faith and multi-racial community. We will always aim to integrate and engage every child and family within the school and wider communities.

We celebrate a range of different religious and cultural festivals across the year giving every child the opportunity to take part.

As a school, we open our doors to organisations within the community for festivals, discussions with religious leaders and local law enforcement agencies.

We monitor and assess incidents which might suggest that pupils and their families are engaging, or are at risk of engaging in extremist activity and / or radicalisation.

Where a pupil or family have been identified as being at risk of radicalisation or extremist behaviour, the school will take action proportionate to the incident / risk and refer such cases to the Channel Programme. Channel is a programme which focuses on providing support to individuals and families at an early stage to prevent them from being further engaged in the process of radicalisation and extremist behaviour.



# Appendix 1: External Speaker / Company Vetting Form

## Valley Primary School

A Member School of Connect Schools Academy Trust

Beckenham Lane, Bromley, BR2 6DA

email: admin@valley.bromley.sch.uk

website: www.valley.bromley.sch.uk

telephone: 020 8460 1121

fax: 020 8460 8124



### External Hirer / Company Vetting Form

<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Name of Organisation</b> <b>Reason for Hire</b>	
<b>Date(s) of Hire</b>	
<b>Age of Pupils involved in activity</b>	
<b>Name of School Contact</b>	
<b>Background of the activities being undertaken.</b>	
<b>Details of where the content for the planned activities has been sourced</b>	
<b>Does the activity / club communicate politically sensitive material?</b>	Please Circle Y / N
<small>If Yes, please give details</small>	
<b>Does the activity / club communicate culturally sensitive material?</b>	Please Circle Y / N
<small>If Yes, please give details</small>	
<b>Does my activity / club pay reference to extremist views or criminal activity?</b>	Please Circle Y / N
<small>If Yes, please give details</small>	
<b>Do any funds raised as part of my hire go to support terrorist or extremist groups?</b>	Please Circle Y / N
<small>If Yes, please give details</small>	
<b>Details of any Local, National or</b>	



CARE – LEARN  
 AIM HIGH – BE HONEST  
 WORK TOGETHER – ENJOY WHAT WE DO  
 LOOK AFTER WHAT WE HAVE – IMPROVE ON PREVIOUS BEST



Connect Schools Academy Trust Company Number: 07824714

<b>Global organisations to which I / company are affiliated</b>	
Signed: ..... Print Name: ..... Date: .....	
<b>FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY</b>	
The organisation's activities compliment the values and aims of the school.	Please Circle Y / N
<small>If No, please state reasons for the visit</small>	
Background checks have been carried out?	Please Circle Y / N
<small>Please give details</small>	
Concerns have been identified?	Please Circle Y / N
<small>If Yes, please give details</small>	
Organisation permitted to proceed with hire?	Please Circle Y / N
<small>If No, please state reasons for declining the external speaker / visitor</small>	
Signed (school-based link)	
Signed (Headteacher)	

# Appendix 2: Visiting Speaker Agreement Form

## Valley Primary School

A Member School of Connect Schools Academy Trust

Beckenham Lane, Bromley, BR2 0DA

email: admin@valley.bromley.sch.uk  
web site: www.valley.bromley.sch.uk

telephone: 020 8460 1121  
fax: 020 8466 8124



### External Speaker / Company Vetting Form

Name of Speaker Organisation		
Reason for Visit		
Date of Visit		
Age of Pupils being addressed		
Name of School Contact		
Background of the talk I am going to present or the organisation I represent		
Details of where the content of my talk / presentation / workshop has been sourced		
Does my talk / presentation contain politically sensitive material?	Please Circle Y / N	If Yes, please give details
Does my talk / presentation contain culturally sensitive material?	Please Circle Y / N	If Yes, please give details
Does my talk / presentation pay reference to extremist views or criminal activity?	Please Circle Y / N	If Yes, please give details
Do any funds raised as part of my talk / presentation go to support terrorist or extremist groups?	Please Circle Y / N	If Yes, please give details
Details of any Local, National or		



CARE - LEARN  
AIM HIGH - BE HONEST  
WORK TOGETHER - ENJOY WHAT WE DO  
LOOK AFTER WHAT WE HAVE - IMPROVE ON PREVIOUS BEST  
Connect Schools Academy Trust Company Num



Global organisations to which I / company are affiliated		
I have read the school's Visiting Speaker Agreement relating to External Speakers & Visitors and agree to comply with this during my time at Valley Primary School.		
Signed: ..... Print Name: ..... Date: .....		
<b>FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY</b>		
External speaker's visit compliments the curriculum or assembly themes currently being studied?	Please Circle Y / N	If No, please state reasons for the visit
Background checks have been carried out?	Please Circle Y / N	Please give details
Concerns have been identified?	Please Circle Y / N	If Yes, please give details
External Speaker / Visitor permitted to proceed with visit?	Please Circle Y / N	If No, please state reasons for declining the external speaker / visitor
Signed (school-based link)		
Signed (Head Teacher)		