



The Piggott School

'Go and do Likewise' Luke 10:25-37, The Parable of the Good Samaritan
We live with love and compassion, seeking help in times of need.

Policy with Regard to Preventing Radicalisation

Date last reviewed: Spring Term 2023

Responsibility: Deputy Head (Pastoral) and the Lead Governor for Safeguarding

Review Period: Triennially

Designated Prevent Officer: Mr David Thatcher

Designated Prevent Governor: Mrs J. Cowley

This Policy will help the School to achieve its aims by:

1. Ensuring that all pupils remain safe and free from harm, thereby helping to prepare them for a full and active adult life.
2. Showing a commitment to its role as a full and active participant in the multi-agency response to child safeguarding concerns.
3. Valuing all God's children and enabling all to flourish

Background

This 'Preventing Radicalisation 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.

Schools have an important part to play in both educating children and young people about extremism and recognising when pupils start to become radicalised. In March 2015, new statutory duties were placed on schools by the Counter Terrorism and Security Act (2015) which means they must work to prevent children being drawn into extremism.

Safeguarding children from all risks of harm is an important part of a school's work and protecting them from extremism is one aspect of that.

Ethos

At the Piggott School we ensure that through our Christian vision, values, relationships and teaching we promote tolerance and respect for all cultures, faiths and lifestyles. The Governing Body also ensures that this ethos is reflected and implemented effectively through school policy and practice and that there is an effective safeguarding policy in place to protect and promote pupils' welfare.

We have a duty to prepare our children for life in modern Britain and to keep them safe. Everyone at the Piggott School 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.

Statutory Duties

The duty to prevent children and young people being radicalised is set out in the following documents.

- Counter Terrorism and Security Act (2015)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (2022)
- Prevent Duty Guidance (2015)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)
- Section 406 and 407 Education Act 1996
- Early Years Foundation Stage framework

Non-statutory Guidance

- Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools: Departmental advice for maintained schools (DfE 2014)

Related Policies and Procedures

- Internet use
- Acceptable internet usage
- Behaviour
- Safeguarding
- Equalities
- Curriculum
- Whistleblowing
- PSHE
- Antibullying
- Racist incidents
- Information security

- SMSC
- Safer recruitment

Definitions

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

British Values are democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Roles and Responsibilities

Role of the Governing Body

It is the role of the Governing Body to ensure that the school meets its statutory duties with regard to preventing radicalisation.

The Governing Body has a nominated person who will liaise with the Senior Leadership Team and other staff about issues to do with protecting children from radicalisation.

Role of the Executive Headteacher (Wargrave site) and Headteacher (Charvil site)

It is the role of the Executive Headteacher and Headteacher to:

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

Role of Designated Safeguarding Lead

It is the role of the designated safeguarding lead to:

- ensure that staff understand the issues of radicalisation, are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns
- receive safeguarding concerns about children and young people 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

Role of staff

It is the role of staff to understand the issues of radicalisation, are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns.

Curriculum

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.

From the Early Years Foundation Stage, in an age appropriate way, we teach children to learn right from wrong, mix and share with other children and value others' views, recognise similarities and differences between themselves and others and challenge negative attitudes and stereotypes.

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

Our school is a safe space for children and young people to understand and discuss sensitive topics including terrorist and extremist ideas and learn how to be a courageous advocate and challenge those ideas.

Internet Safety

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 filtering systems used in our school blocks inappropriate content, including extremist content.

Where staff, students or visitors find unblocked extremist content they must report it to a senior member of staff.

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 their phones.

Pupils and staff know how to report internet content that is inappropriate or of concern.

Staff Training

Staff will be given training to help them understand the issues of radicalisation, 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.

Safer Recruitment

We ensure that the staff we appoint to the school are suitable, our recruitment procedures are rigorous and we follow the statutory guidance published in the most recent *Keeping Children Safe in Education (2016)*. Vetting and barring checks are undertaken on relevant people, including governors and volunteers.

Visitors

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 children without a member of staff being present.

Staff must not invite speakers into school without first obtaining permission from the Executive Headteacher at our Wargrave site and the Headteacher at our Charvil site.

Signs of vulnerability

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 identify
- victim or witness to race or hate crimes
- rejection by peers, family, social groups or faith

Recognising Extremism

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 (but 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 which raise concern or sharing extremist messages on 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

Referral Process

Staff and visitors to the School **must** refer all concerns about children and young people who show signs of vulnerability or radicalisation to the **Designated Safeguarding Lead** using the usual methods for reporting other safeguarding concerns.

When there are significant concerns about a pupil, the Designated Safeguarding Lead in liaison with the Executive Headteacher/Headteacher will make a referral to the appropriate body.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be monitored and reviewed by the Governing Body triennially.

The Full Governing Body will be advised of any Prevent concerns or incidents. This will be through the standing safeguarding agenda item.