

ANTI-RADICALISATION POLICY

1. OVERVIEW

1.1 Woodfield School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. As a school we recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation is no different from safeguarding against any other vulnerability. The Anti-radicalisation policy sets out our beliefs, strategies and procedures to protect vulnerable individuals from being radicalised or exposed to extremism, by identifying who they are and providing them with support.

1.2 It is the safeguarding policy that should be referred to for details of the reporting procedure but in order to highlight and address the complexity of this threat, a separate policy has been created.

1.3 This policy should be read in conjunction with those listed in Section 2 as they give a detailed background to how anti-radicalisation is approached holistically at Woodfield School.

2. LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES

- Child Protection and Safeguarding 2015
- Child Sex Exploitation 2015
- Equality Plan 2015
- Behaviour for Learning Policy 2015
- Religious Education Policy 2015
- SMSC policy 2015
- Staff Code of Conduct 2015

3. AIMS AND PRINCIPLES

3.1 This policy is intended to provide a framework for dealing with issues relating to vulnerability, radicalisation and exposure to extreme views. It clearly sets out how the school will deal with such incidents and identifies how the curriculum and ethos underpins our actions.

3.2 The objectives are that:

- All governors and school staff will have an understanding of what radicalisation and Prevent is and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- All governors and school staff will know what the school policy is on anti-radicalisation and will follow the policy when issues arise.
- All parents 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.

3.3 The main aims of this policy are to ensure that staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalisation; that they will be prepared to think the unthinkable and overcome professional disbelief that such issues will not happen here and ensure that the school work alongside other professional bodies and agencies to ensure that our pupils are safe from harm.

3.4 As a school with comparably less ethnic diversity than many other schools, we must particularly strive against complacency and ensure staff and pupils still access a rich multi-cultural education and guard against our pupils becoming isolated

4. DEFINITIONS AND INDICATORS

4.1 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.

4.2 Extremism is defined as the holding of extreme political or religious views.

4.3 There are a number of behaviours which may indicate a child is at risk of being radicalised or exposed to extreme views. These include:

- Spending increasing time in the company of other suspected extremists.
- Changing their style of dress or personal appearance to accord with the group.
- Their day-to-day behaviour becoming increasingly centred on an extremist ideology, group or cause.
- Loss of interest in other friends and activities not associated with the extremist ideology, group or cause.
- Possession of materials or symbols associated with an extremist cause.
- Attempts to recruit others to the group or cause.
- Communications with others that suggests identification with a group, cause or ideology.
- Using insulting derogatory names for another group.
- Increase in prejudice-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.

5. PROCEDURES FOR REFERRALS

5.1 Please use the referral procedure as explained in Woodfield School's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy 2015.

6. THE ROLE OF THE CURRICULUM

6.1 Our curriculum promotes 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. School staff are expected to sensitively challenge pupils' views through discussion and mediation.

6.2 Our PSD provision is embedded across the curriculum, directs our assemblies and underpins the ethos of the school. 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.

6.3 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.

6.4 We seek to work in partnership with parents wherever possible on e-safety and will regularly offer training and information to help parents keep their children safe.

6.5 Weekly assemblies are used to emphasise the fundamental British Values of democracy, individual liberty, the rule of law and mutual respect and tolerance for others with different beliefs or faiths.

6.6 School Council provides pupils with a democratically elected platform for sharing views on the school and effecting real change in the way the school is run.

6.7 All pupils have an additional named member of staff who they can speak with at any time.

7. STAFF TRAINING

7.1 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.

7.2 All teaching staff will have at least the minimum required training on the Prevent strategy. The senior leadership training will always seek to have advanced training.

8. POLICY REVIEW

8.1 The Anti-radicalisation policy will be reviewed annually as part of the overall Child Protection and Safeguarding policy review. However, should changes be required before this date then the policy will be immediately reviewed.