PREVENT Policy



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| **Approved by:** |  | **Date:** January 2021 |
| **Last reviewed on:** | January 2021 | |
| **Next review due by:** | January 2021 | |

**St. Giles’ & St. George’s C of E Academy**

**PREVENTING RADICALISATION POLICY**

**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 St. Giles’ & St. George’s C of E Academy we ensure that through our school vision, values, rules, diverse curriculum 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 in school policy and practice and that there are effective risk assessments in place to safeguard and promote students’ welfare.

We have a duty to prepare our children for life in modern Britain and to keep them safe. Pupils who attend our school have the right to learn 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 (2015)
* Prevent Duty Guidance (2015)
* Working together to Safeguard Children (2015)

**Non-statutory Guidance**

* Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools

**Related Policies**

* Online Safety Policy
* Behaviour for Learning Policy
* Safeguarding Policy
* Equality Policy
* PSHE Policy
* RE Policy
* Staff Code of Conduct
* Teaching and Learning Policy
* Whistle-blowing Policy

**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; Peter Nisbeck our Safeguarding

Governor, who will liaise with the Head Teacher and other staff about issues to do with protecting children from radicalisation.

**Role of the Head of School / Executive Head Teacher**

It is the role of the Head Teacher to:

* ensure that the school and its staff respond to preventing radicalisation on a dayto-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 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.

St. Giles’ & St. George’s C of E Academy is a values based learning community. Our values support the development of the whole child as a reflective learner within a calm, caring, happy and purposeful atmosphere. Teaching the schools 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.

**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.

**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 induction safeguarding training. Staff are updated as necessary in weekly safeguarding briefings.

**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 part 3 of

*Keeping Children Safe in Education (2015)*. Vetting and barring checks are undertaken on relevant people, including governors and volunteers.

**Visitors**

Visitors to the school are made aware of our safeguarding and child protection policies and are given information about what to do if they are concerned about any aspect of child welfare.

**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 identity
* 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
* 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, programs and networks that young people can come across online so involvement with particular groups may not be apparent)
* secretive behaviour
* online searcher 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
* verbalizing anti-Western or anti-British views
* advocating violence towards others

**Appendix 1 -Prevent referral process**

**What do I do if I have concerns about an individual in relation to extremism or radicalisation?**

If you have concern about an individual in relation to extremism or radicalisation, you can refer to the Prevent Team. They will be able to offer appropriate advice and guidance and will refer into the Channel process, if required.

**Prevent Co-ordinator**

Tel: 01785 232054

Email: [Calum.Forsyth@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Calum.Forsyth@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk)

**Prevent Team**

Tel: 01785 238239 or 01785 233109

Email: [prevent@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:prevent@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk)

**What is Channel?**

Channel is a key element of the Prevent Strategy. It is a multi-agency approach to protect people at risk of radicalisation. Channel uses existing collaboration between local authorities, statutory partners, the police and the local community to identify individuals at risk of being drawn into terrorism, assess the nature and extent of that risk and develop the most appropriate support for the individuals concerned.

More information about Channel can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/118194/channel-guidance.pdf>

**What happens once I have raised a concern about an individual with the Prevent Team?**

Prevent Team Officers would liaise with you to discuss your concerns. They would complete a vulnerability assessment for the individual (either by engaging directly with them or based on information given by the referrer, depending on the circumstances).

The information would then be used to make a decision as to whether the case needed to be discussed at the next Channel meeting, where the assessment is discussed and agencies are invited to contribute any shared knowledge about the individual from their own area of business. The vulnerability assessment scoring is also discussed and a decision made about how to ensure the most suitable outcomes for the individual are achieved. If the case is not accepted into the Channel process at this stage, it will be referred back to the Case Management process, where appropriate alternative support and engagement for the individual will be identified.

If an individual who has been referred to Channel is the subject of an existing statutory process (for example, child protection processes) the Prevent Team would endeavour to contribute to the statutory process along with the other key partners who were working together to achieve the best outcomes for the individual concerned.

The person making the referral will be kept informed and, in many cases, would be involved in decision-making going forward.

**Channel Process**

The diagram shows the different stages within the Channel process:

\* When an individual is identified as a potential cause for concern in relation to Prevent, a referral will be made to Prevent Team.

**Identification /**

**Initial Referral \***

**The Channel Process**

**review**

**seek endorsement**

**appropriate**

**appropriate**

**Multi-Agency Panel**

* Review of vulnerability assessment and risk.
* Collective assessment of support needs.
* Develop support plan.
* Identify and procure appropriate support packs.
* Review progress.

**not appropriate**

**Preliminary Assessment**

* Determine suitability (alternative support mechanisms).
* Collective assessment of vulnerability and risk.
* Review panel decisions at 6 and 12 months.

**not appropriate**

**Screening Referrals**

* Screen referral to ensure there is a specific vulnerability around radicalisation and the referral is not malicious or misinformed.
* Maintain proper record.

**Exit**

or refer to alternative support mechanism

**Delivery of Support**

**Useful Staffordshire Contacts:**

**Prevent Co-ordinator**

Tel: 01785 232054

Email: [Calum.Forsyth@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Calum.Forsyth@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk)

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**Source:** ‘Channel: Protecting vulnerable people from being drawn into terrorism - A guide for local partnerships’. HM Government, October 2012