



## **Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Safeguarding Policy**

*Our School vision is to provide all children with the opportunities to reach their academic, creative and physical potential, in a stimulating, caring, safe and inclusive learning environment.*

The Prevent Duty is the requirement in the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 for specified authorities including independent schools to have due regard for the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

Bryony School's Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Safeguarding Policy is one element within our overall school arrangements to Safeguard and Promote the Welfare of all Children in line with our statutory duties set out in the Education Act 2002.

Our school's Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Safeguarding Policy also draws upon the guidance contained in the Prevent Duty, government advice of July 2015 and the revised DfE Guidance "Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIS), September 2020

We use the following accepted Governmental definition of extremism which is: '*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; and/or calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas*'.

There is no place for extremist views of any kind in our school, whether from internal sources – pupils, staff, or external sources - school community, external agencies or individuals. Our pupils see our school as a safe place where they can explore controversial issues safely and where our teachers encourage and facilitate this – we have a duty to ensure this happens.

As a school we recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes for children and so should be addressed as a safeguarding concern as set out in this policy. We also recognise that if we fail to challenge extremist views we are failing to protect our pupils. Extremists of all persuasions aim to develop destructive relationships between different communities by promoting division, fear and mistrust of others based on ignorance or prejudice and thereby limiting the life chances of young people.

Education is a powerful weapon against this; equipping young people with the knowledge, skills and critical thinking, to challenge and debate in an informed way. Therefore, at Bryony School we aim to provide a broad and balanced curriculum so that our pupils are enriched, understand and become tolerant of difference and diversity and also to ensure that they thrive, feel valued and not marginalized.

Any prejudice, discrimination or extremist views, including derogatory language, displayed by pupils or staff will always be challenged and where appropriate dealt with in line with our Behaviour Policy and Code of Conduct. Where misconduct by a teacher is alleged (part of our Whistle Blowing Policy), the school will follow the allegations against staff procedure. If the allegation is proven, it will be

referred to the Staff National College for Teaching and Leadership for their consideration in respect of a Prohibition Order.

Our Internet Filtering system provided by SurfProtect is in line with Prevent Duty Guidance (see our E-Safety Policy for further details).

### ***Visiting Speakers***

The Prevent Duty Guidance requires the School to have clear protocols for ensuring that any visiting speakers, whether invited by staff or by pupils, are suitable and appropriately supervised.

The School is not permitted to obtain a DBS disclosure or Children's Barred List information on any visiting speaker who does not engage in regulated activity at the School or perform any other regular duties for or on behalf of the School. All visiting speakers will be subject to the School's usual visitors signing in and out protocol.

The School will also obtain such formal or informal background information about a visiting speaker as is reasonable in the circumstances to decide whether to invite and/or permit a speaker to attend the School. In fulfilling its Prevent Duty obligations the School does not discriminate on the grounds of race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, religion or religious belief, sex or sexual orientation, marital or civil partner status, disability or age.

### **Recognising extremism**

As part of wider safeguarding responsibilities school staff will be alert to signs of possible indications of extremism or radicalisation:

- Disclosures by pupils of their exposure to the extremist actions, views or materials of others outside of school, such as in their homes or community groups, especially where pupils have not actively sought these out.
- Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images
- Pupils accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites
- Parental reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance
- Medway Council and police reports of issues affecting pupils in other schools or settings
- Pupils voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives
- Use of extremist or 'hate' terms to exclude others or incite violence
- Intolerance of difference, whether secular or religious or, in line with our equalities policy, views based on, but not exclusive to, gender, disability, homophobia, race, colour or culture
- Attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others
- Anti-Western or Anti-British views

### **Recognising 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

### **Teaching Approaches**

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 PSHE and RE; but also by adopting the methods outlined in the Government's guidance 'Teaching approaches that help build resilience to extremism among young people' DfE 2011. We will ensure that all of our teaching approaches help our pupils build resilience to extremism and give pupils a positive sense of identity through the development of critical thinking skills. We will be flexible enough to adapt our teaching approaches, as appropriate, so as to address specific issues so as to become even more relevant to the current issues of extremism and radicalisation. **Please see attached annex on 'Fundamental British Values' for more details.**

### **Referral Process**

Staff and visitors to the school must refer all concerns about children and young people who show signs of vulnerability or radicalisation must be passed to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), Mrs Gee or the Deputy DSLs, Mrs Atkins and Mrs Notley, using the usual methods for reporting other safeguarding concerns. When there are significant concerns about a pupil Mrs Gee will make a referral to the Local Authority.

### **Useful contacts:**

**Making a referral to Medway Council Children's Social Care.** Tel: 01634 334466

**Children's Advice and Duty Service (CADS)**

Telephone: 01634 334466 24 hour emergency number 03000 419191

NSPCC 08088005000

Child Line 080011111

Medway Police 01622690690

Non emergency number 101

Emergency number 999

LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer) Clare Wilkes - Tel: 01634 331229

### **Preventing extremism in schools and children's services**

To report concerns about extremism in a school or organisation that works with children, or if you think a child might be at risk of extremism:

Email [counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk)

Telephone 020 7340 7264 Monday to Friday from 9am to 6pm (excluding bank holidays).

## Staff Training

Staff have access to Educare online training which covers modules including Safeguarding in Education and the Prevent Duty.

## Useful Contacts

### Customer First

Medway Council, Level 4, Gun Wharf

Chatham, Kent. ME4 4TR

Tel: 01634 334466

### Medway Safeguarding Children Board

Level 5, Gun Wharf, Chatham

Kent, ME4 4TU

Tel: 01634 336329 / Email: [mscb@medway.gov.uk](mailto:mscb@medway.gov.uk)

### Local Authority Designated Officer (Allegations against staff)

Tel: 01634 331229

**OFSTED** 0300 123 1231

**Medway Council Child Protection out of hours team.** Tel: 0845 7626777

**NSPCC**, National helpline. Tel: 080 88 00 5000

**Childline**, National Helpline for children. Tel: 0800 1111

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| <b>Policy last reviewed</b> | September 2020<br>(KCSIE 2020) |
| <b>Next Review</b>          | September 2021                 |