

Marlborough Primary Academy



Preventing Radicalisation Policy Summer 2021

Policy Agreed By LGB	1 st July 2021
Next review	

Marlborough Primary Academy 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. All staff are expected to uphold and promote the fundamental principles of British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

The main aims of this policy statement are to ensure that staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalisation; that they overcome professional disbelief that such issues will not happen here and ensure that we work alongside other professional bodies and agencies to ensure that our pupils are safe from harm. The principle objectives are that:

- All Staff and Governors will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- All Staff and Governors will know what the school policy is on anti-radicalisation and extremism 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.

Definitions and Indicators

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

This Preventing Radicalisation Policy is part of our commitment to keeping our pupils and the school community safe. 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 Marlborough Primary Academy, we ensure that through our vision, values and teaching we promote tolerance and respect for all cultures, faiths and lifestyles and develop children's understanding of British Values. We have a duty to prepare our pupils for life in modern Britain and to keep them safe. Everyone at Marlborough Primary Academy has the right to learn and work in safety.

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 2020 – updated 2021
- Prevent Duty Guidance 2015
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015/Guidance 2018

Related Policies

- Internet use Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Equality Opportunities Policy
- Whistle-blowing Policy
- Code of Conduct

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

- We are all responsible for the welfare of the children. It is the role of all the staff to understand the issues of radicalisation, that they are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns.
- The Governors will ensure that the school meets its statutory duties with regard to preventing radicalisation. The school has a nominated Safeguarding Governor who will liaise with the Headteacher and other staff about issues to do with protecting pupils from radicalisation.

Role of the Headteacher is 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 is to:

- Ensure that staff understand the issues of radicalisation, that they are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns
- Receive safeguarding concerns about pupils 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

Curriculum

Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. 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. 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. Our PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education), Citizenship and SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) provision is embedded across the curriculum, and underpins the ethos of the school. 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. 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.

Internet Safety

The internet is a wonderful resource that provides children with access to a wide-range of content and information. However, some of which is harmful. Extremists messages and values are spread 3

through the internet and social media. The school's monitoring and filtering systems block inappropriate searches for content, including extremist content, and will flag it up to the IT technician.

Where staff, pupils or visitors find unblocked extremist content they must report it immediately to either the IT technician or the head teacher.

Staff Training

Staff will undertake Prevent training to help them understand the issues of radicalisation, so that they are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns. This information also forms part of the annual safeguarding training.

Signs of Vulnerability

There are no known definitive indicators that a young person is vulnerable to radicalisation, but there are number of signs that together increase the risk, some of these may not be appropriate for primary aged pupils, but pupils may disclose information about a family member which may indicate they or members of their house hold are at risk.

Signs of vulnerability may include:

- underachievement
- being in possession of extremist literature
- poverty /social exclusion / rejection by peers, family, social groups or faith
- traumatic events
- global or national event
- religious conversion
- change in behaviour/ becoming withdrawn in class / disengagement from work
- extremist influences
- conflict with family over lifestyle / confused identify
- victim or witness to race or hate crimes
- rebelling against school rules
- attendance – change in pattern

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 (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
- on-line searches 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
- verbalising anti-Western/anti-British or Far Right Wing/ White Supremacy views
- advocating violence towards others

Referral Process

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at Marlborough Primary Academy to date, it is important for us to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues which affect the region in which we teach. Staff are reminded to suspend any professional disbelief that instances of radicalisation ‘could not happen here’ and to refer any concerns through the appropriate channels (currently via the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Headteacher).

We believe that it is possible to intervene to protect people who are vulnerable. Early intervention is vital and staff must be aware of the established processes for front line professionals to refer concerns about individuals and/or groups. We must have the confidence to challenge, the confidence to intervene and ensure that we have strong safeguarding practices based on the most up-to-date guidance and best practice.

The Designated Lead for Child Protection and Safeguarding and the Headteacher will deal swiftly with any referrals made by staff or with concerns reported by staff.

The Headteacher will discuss the most appropriate course of action on a case-by-case basis and will decide when a referral to external agencies is needed.

Staff and visitors to the schools must refer all concerns about pupils 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, a referral will be made to the appropriate body.

Plymouth Social Care Advice and Assessment - 01752 308600/668000
 Devon & Cornwall Police Channel Programme — Regional Prevent/Channel lead (South)
prevent@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be monitored and reviewed by the Governors
 Reviewed at or before Autumn 2022