



Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy

	Name	Date
Reviewed	Governing Body	September 2021
Reviewed	Governing Body Matt De Freitas	November 2023
Review		November 2024 (annually for KCSIE, 3 years for Governors)

Version Control

Date	Change
Sept 2023	P6 Updated Prevent referrals contact
	P9 Appendix 1 – updated for KCSIE 2023

Introduction

Raglan Primary School is committed to providing a secure environment for pupils, where they feel safe and are kept safe. All adults at Raglan recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility irrespective of the role they undertake or whether their role has direct contact or responsibility for children or not.

In adhering to this policy, and the procedures therein, staff and visitors will contribute to our delivery of the requirements set out in s10 (2) of the Children Act 2004*. This Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation 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 at s175 of the Education Act 2002 (s157 of the Education Act 2002).

Our school's Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Safeguarding Policy also draws upon the guidance contained in DfE Guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education 2019' and specifically DCSF Resources 'Learning Together to be Safe', 'Prevent: Resources Guide', 'Tackling Extremism in the UK'.

* The physical, mental health and emotional well-being of children; the protection of children from harm and neglect; the education, training and recreation of children; the contribution made by them to society; and their social and economic well-being.

School Ethos and Practice

When operating this policy Raglan uses 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'.

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There is no place for extremist views of any kind in our school, whether from internal sources — pupils, staff or governors, 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 Raglan we will provide a broad and balanced curriculum, delivered by skilled professionals, so that our pupils are enriched, understand and are keen to celebrate diversity and challenge discrimination in all its forms. We recognise that young people can be exposed to extremist influences or prejudiced views from an early age which emanate from a variety of sources and media, including via the internet, and at times pupils may themselves reflect or display views that may be discriminatory, prejudiced or extremist, including using derogatory language.

Any prejudice, discrimination or extremist views and the use of derogatory language will always be challenged and dealt with according to our Behaviour Policy and Staff Code of Conduct. Where misconduct by a teacher is proven, the matter will be referred to the National College for Teaching and Leadership for their consideration as to whether a Prohibition Order is warranted.

As part of wider safeguarding responsibilities school staff will be alert to:

- 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;
- Materials promoting extremist messages or images;
 - Pupils or staff accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites;
- Parental reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance;
 - Partner schools, local authority services, 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.

Our school will closely follow any locally agreed procedure as set out by the Local Authority and/or Bromley Safeguarding Children Partnership agreed processes and criteria for safeguarding individuals vulnerable to extremism and radicalisation.

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; 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 note that guidance from Ofsted categorises 'British Values' as:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
 - Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

As a school we aim to develop and nurture these through:

- An engaging assembly programme with core ethical values and beliefs at its heart
- A well-structured Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship education programme which addresses all of the requirements of the programmes of study (looking at Democracy, Freedom, the rule of law, Human Rights and responsibilities)
- A strong Religious Studies curriculum
- Effective and well-managed Student Council enabling pupils to actively participate in the democratic process
- A range of channels for student voice
- A broad and balanced curriculum which addresses many of these core values across a range of subject areas
- A clearly communicated and consistently applied Behaviour Policy so that pupils understand what is expected of them and the consequences of both meeting and failing to meet these expectations.

We will ensure that all of our teaching approaches help our pupils to be resilient enough to be able to resist extremism and that we nurture a positive sense of identity through the development of critical thinking skills. We will ensure that all of our staff are equipped to recognise extremism and are skilled and confident enough to challenge it.

Use of External Agencies and Speakers

At Raglan we encourage the use of external agencies or speakers to enrich the experiences of our pupils; however we will positively vet those external agencies, individuals or speakers who we engage to provide such learning opportunities or experiences for our pupils. Such vetting is to ensure that we do not unwittingly use agencies that contradict each other with their messages or that are inconsistent with, or are in complete opposition to, the school's values and ethos. We must be aware that in some instances the work of external agencies may not directly be connected with the rest of the school curriculum so we need to ensure that this work is of benefit to pupils. Our school will assess the suitability and effectiveness of input from external agencies or individuals to ensure that:

- Any messages communicated to pupils are consistent with the ethos of the school and do not marginalise any communities, groups or individuals
- Any messages do not seek to glorify criminal activity or violent extremism or seek to radicalise pupils through extreme or narrow views of faith, religion or culture or other ideologies
- Activities are properly embedded in the curriculum and clearly mapped to schemes of work to avoid contradictory messages or duplication.
- Activities are matched to the needs of pupils
- Activities are carefully evaluated by schools to ensure that they are effective

We recognise, however, that the ethos of our school is to encourage pupils to understand opposing views and ideologies, appropriate to their age, understanding and abilities, and to be able to actively engage with them in informed debate, and we may use external agencies or speakers to facilitate and support this. Therefore by delivering a broad and balanced curriculum, augmented by the use of external sources where appropriate, we will strive to ensure our pupils recognise risk and build resilience to manage any such risk themselves where appropriate to their age and ability but also to help pupils develop the critical thinking skills needed to engage in informed debate.

Whistle Blowing

Where there are concerns of extremism or radicalisation pupils and staff will be encouraged to make use of our internal systems to whistle blow or raise any issue in confidence. See our separate Whistle Blowing Policy and Procedure document.

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In the event of PREVENT staff will make contact with the person detailed below to discuss the concerns. He will then advise if we need to send him more details by email. Only then is a meeting held with the school and police to discuss this further if required.

Prevent/Channel referrals

Robert Vale
Robert.vale@bromley.gov.uk
020 8313 4785
07947158458

If in doubt staff will ring Bromley police station and ask for the Prevent Engagement Officer.

Child Protection

Please refer to our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy for the full procedural framework on our Child Protection duties.

Staff at Raglan will be alert to the fact that whilst extremism and radicalisation is broadly a safeguarding issue there may be some instances where a child or children may be at direct risk of harm or neglect. For example; this could be due to a child displaying risky behaviours in terms of the activities they are involved in or the groups they are associated with or staff may be aware of information about a child's family that may equally place a child at risk of harm. (These examples are for illustration and are not definitive or exhaustive).

Therefore all adults working in Raglan (including visiting staff, volunteers and students on placement) are required to report instances where they believe a child may be at risk of harm or neglect to the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Head Teacher.

In Raglan our child protection reporting arrangements are set out fully in our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and are summarised here, as follows; All concerns are to be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead – Matt DeFreitas and in his absence to the Deputy Safeguarding Lead – Danielle Mead, Sam Collins or Martin Hunter.

A 'Record of Concern' notification should be completed on CPOMS, or written up (form is in the Child Protection Policy) and given to the DSL or the Deputies.

Role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is Matt DeFreitas.

The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are Danielle Mead, Sam Collins or Martin Hunter.

The designated safeguarding lead works in line with the responsibilities as set out at Annex B of the DfE Guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education 2019'.

The designated safeguarding lead is the focus person and local 'expert' for school staff, and others, who may have concerns about an individual child's safety or well-being and is the first point of contact for external agencies.

At Raglan the role of the designated safeguarding lead will be extended, at the appropriate time, to include the responsibilities of the PREVENT strand of the Government's counterterrorism strategy.

Training

Whole school in-service training on Child Protection and Safeguarding will be organised for staff and governors at least every three years and will comply with the prevailing arrangements agreed by the Local Authority and Bromley's Safeguarding Children Board and will, in part, include training on extremism and radicalisation and its safeguarding implications. The Designated Safeguarding Lead will attend Bromley training courses as necessary and the appropriate inter-agency training organised by the Bromley Safeguarding Children Board at least every two years, again this will include training on extremism and radicalisation and its safeguarding implications. The Head has completed Home Office WRAP Prevent Trainer Training and they in turn ensure that all staff are aware of their duty under the Prevent Strategy.

Recruitment

The arrangements for recruiting all staff, permanent and volunteers, to our school will follow Bromley's guidance for safer recruitment best practice in education settings, including, but not limited to, ensuring that DBS checks are always made at the appropriate level, that references are always received and checked and that we complete and maintain a single central record of such vetting checks. We will apply safer recruitment best practice principles and sound employment practice in general and in doing so will deny opportunities for inappropriate recruitment or advancement. We will be alert to the possibility that persons may seek to gain positions within our school so as to unduly influence our schools character and ethos. We are aware that such persons seek to limit the opportunities for our pupils thereby rendering them vulnerable to extremist views and radicalisation as a consequence.

Therefore, by adhering to safer recruitment best practice techniques and by ensuring that there is an ongoing culture of vigilance within our school and staff team we will minimise the opportunities for extremist views to prevail.

Role of Governing Body

The Governing Body of our School will undertake appropriate training to ensure that they are clear about their role and the parameters of their responsibilities as Governors, including their statutory safeguarding duties.

The Governing Body of our school will support the ethos and values of our school and will support the school in tackling extremism and radicalisation. In line with the provisions set out in the DfE guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2023' the governing body will challenge the school's senior management team on the delivery of this policy and monitor its effectiveness.

Governors will review this policy regularly and may amend and adopt it outside of this timeframe in accordance with any new legislation or guidance or in response to any quality assurance recommendations pertaining to the delivery of this policy and the overall safeguarding arrangements made. Review Governors will review this policy every 3 years.

"Our school has due regard to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between all parties."

APPENDIX 1

EXCERPT FROM KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE IN EDUCATION Statutory Guidance
September 2023

Preventing radicalisation

Children may be susceptible to extremist ideology and radicalisation. Similar to protecting children from other forms of harms and abuse, protecting children from this risk should be a part of a schools or colleges safeguarding approach.

Extremism is the vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. This also includes calling for the death of members of the armed forces.

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

Terrorism is an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people; causes serious damage to property; or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause.

Although there is no single way of identifying whether a child is likely to be susceptible to an extremist ideology, there are possible indicators that should be taken into consideration alongside other factors and contexts. Background factors combined with specific influences such as family and friends may contribute to a child's vulnerability. Similarly, radicalisation can occur through many different methods (such as social media or the internet) and settings (such as within the home).

However, it is possible to protect people from extremist ideologies and intervene to prevent those at risk of radicalisation being drawn to terrorism. As with other safeguarding risks, staff should be alert to changes in children's behaviour, which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Staff should use their judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately which may include the designated safeguarding lead (or a deputy) making a Prevent referral.

Although not a cause for concern on their own, possible indicators when taken into consideration alongside other factors or context may be a sign of being radicalised.

The Prevent duty

All schools and colleges are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (the CTSA 2015), in the exercise of their functions, to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. This duty is known as the Prevent duty.

The Prevent duty should be seen as part of schools’ and colleges’ wider safeguarding obligations. Designated safeguarding leads (and deputies) and other senior leaders in schools should familiarise themselves with the revised Prevent duty guidance: for England and Wales, especially paragraphs 57-76, which are specifically concerned with schools (and also covers childcare). Designated safeguarding leads (and deputies) and other senior leaders in colleges should familiarise themselves with the Prevent duty guidance: for further education institutions in England and Wales. The guidance is set out in terms of four general themes: risk assessment, working in partnership, staff training, and IT policies.

The school’s or college’s designated safeguarding lead (and any deputies) should be aware of local procedures for making a Prevent referral.

Channel

Channel is a voluntary, confidential support programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being susceptible to being drawn into terrorism. Prevent referrals are assessed and may be passed to a multi-agency Channel panel, which will discuss the individual referred to determine whether they are at risk of being drawn into terrorism and consider the appropriate support required. A representative from the school or college may be asked to attend the Channel panel to help with this assessment. An individual will be required to provide their consent before any support delivered through the programme is provided. The designated safeguarding lead (or a deputy) should consider if it would be appropriate to share any information with the new school or college in advance of a child leaving. For example, information that would allow the new school or college to continue supporting victims of abuse or those who are currently receiving support through the ‘Channel’ programme and have that support in place for when the child arrives.

Statutory guidance on Channel is available at: [Channel guidance](#).