



## **PREVENTING EXTREMISM AND RADICALISATION**

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# PREVENTING EXTREMISM AND RADICALISATION

## Rationale

Inspire Multi Academy Trust is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. As a family of schools, we recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation is as important as safeguarding against any other vulnerability.

At Inspire Multi Academy Trust 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 Governing Body has a zero-tolerance approach to extremist behaviour for all community members. We rely on our strong values to steer our work and ensure the pastoral care of our pupils which protects them from exposure to negative influences.

Furthermore, our positive promotion of our Behaviour Policy equips our pupils with the skills to reject violence in all its forms.

## Links to other Policies

The Inspire Multi Academy Trust Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation policy statement links to the following policies:

- Child Protection Policy
- Equality and Diversity Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Behaviour and Discipline Policy
- Online Safety Policy

The main aims of this policy statement are to ensure that:

- staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalisation;
- 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 governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- All governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff 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 Trust 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.
- Pupils are encouraged to adopt and live out our Core Values. These complement the key “British Values” of tolerance, respect, understanding, compassion and harmonious living.
- Pupils are helped to understand the importance of democracy and freedom of speech, through assemblies and through the elected School Council members
- Pupils are taught how to keep themselves safe, in school and when using the internet.

- Pupils participate in local community events so that they appreciate and value their neighbours and friends who may not share their faith background.
  - Pupil's wellbeing, confidence and resilience is promoted through our planned curriculum and out of hours learning opportunities.
  - Pupils are supported in making good choices from a very young age, so they understand the impact and consequences of their actions on others.
  - The Office for Security & Counter Terrorism works to counter the threat from terrorism and their work is detailed in the counter terrorism strategy. This strategy is based on four areas of work:
    - Pursue - To stop terrorist attacks
    - Prevent - To stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism
    - Protect - To strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack
    - Prepare - To mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack
- 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.

### Procedures and Referrals

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred within our academies 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 Person for Child Protection and Safeguarding).

As a Trust it is our duty to safeguard children against being drawn into violent and non-violent extremism. Staff should be vigilant and be aware of the possible risks faced within school:

- A student/former student carries out an act of extremism
- A student tries to radicalize another within school
- Dangerous or inappropriate literature is brought into school
- Dangerous or inappropriate literature is accessed in school
- Students leave school and travel to dangerous locations
- Parents remove children from school to visit dangerous locations
- Use of school premises by an extremist speaker
- Use of school premises by club/society

Channel is a key element of the Prevent strategy. It is a multi-agency approach to protect people at risk from radicalisation. Channel uses existing collaboration between local authorities, statutory partners (such as health, education, social services), the police and local community to follow a 5 stage process:

1. Individual of potential concern is identified
2. Referral made to Prevent Team/Channel Officer
3. Preliminary assessment; engagement, capability, intent
4. Multi Agency Panel
5. Support Package (diversion, mentoring etc)

If a member of staff has a concern the school's normal safeguarding procedures should be followed, including discussing with the school's designated safeguarding lead, and

where deemed necessary, with children's social care. [Concerned about a child? - Together for Children](#)

The Prevent process, support, guidance, process and tools are all available on Sunderland's City Council Website. (link below.)

[Preventing radicalisation and the prevent duty - Sunderland City Council](#)

[Prevent\\_toolkit\\_for\\_Sunderland\\_Schools.pdf](#)

#### **Useful numbers :**

- Anti- Terrorist Hotline Tel:0800 789 321
- Northumbria Police's Prevent Team Tel: 101 extension 63854 or email [specialbranch@northumbria.pnn.police.uk](mailto:specialbranch@northumbria.pnn.police.uk)
- Integrated Contact and Referral Team (Together for Children) [Contact Us](#)
- Adult Safeguarding ([Contact Health and wellbeing](#)) or make an [online referral](#).
- Department of Education Counter Extremism helpline Tel: 020 7340 7264 to enable staff and governors to raise concerns relating to extremism directly. Concerns can also be raised by email to [counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk)

The PREVENT referral process has been updated in June 2024 to reflect the changes. Please note, the email address for Special Branch has recently been updated to [fimunorth@ctpne.police.uk](mailto:fimunorth@ctpne.police.uk). This is also the address that referral forms should be emailed to.

The Department of Education has a dedicated telephone helpline to enable staff and governors to raise concerns relating to extremism directly (020 7340 7264) or can be contacted by e-mail ([counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk)) Please note however, that the helpline is not intended for emergency use, in which case normal emergency safeguarding procedures should be followed.

### The Role of the Curriculum

- 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.
- Our PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) and SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) provision is embedded across the curriculum.
- 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.
- 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.

### Staff Training

Through INSET opportunities across the Trust, 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.

All staff completed training with Safer Vision 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024, and DSL's completed advanced training 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024. Training is completed by all staff updated every two years.

Senior Leaders in each academy may also have completed additional training through Safeguarding First and retain these records within school. Any information/updates gathered through this training are disseminated to staff through staff meeting time.

### Policy Review

The Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy will be reviewed annually as part of the overall Safeguarding Procedures.