



Walter Infant School

PREVENT POLICY

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Version	Action	By	Date
1.0	Drafted	Judy Wheeler	15 September 2015
1.0	Approved	Full Governing Body	16 September 2015
1.1	Approved	Full Governing Body	2 February 2017

NEXT REVIEW DATE: Spring 2018 or when WBC dictates

PREVENT POLICY

Walter Infant School 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.

Evidence shows 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.

Links to other policies:

The policy statement links to the following policies:

- Safeguarding
- Equal Opportunities
- Anti-bullying and Harassment
- Behaviour
- Staff Code of Conduct

Aims

The main aims of this policy statement are to ensure that staff and governors 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.

Objectives

- 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 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

- **Radicalisation** - 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** - the holding of extreme political or religious views.

- **British Values** include democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

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 identify
- 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 outside school (but 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.);
- 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;
- secretive behaviour;
- online 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 or anti-British views;
- advocating violence towards others.

Procedures for referrals

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at Walter Infant School 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 to the designated Child Protection Officer.

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 and SMSC provision is embedded across the curriculum, and underpins the ethos of the school. 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 in school, 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.

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

All visitors are made aware of what to do if they are concerned about any aspect of safeguarding.

We undertake due diligence to ensure that visiting speakers are appropriate.

Policy review

This policy will be reviewed annually.