



Policy for Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation (Prevent Duty)

Bewdley Primary School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. Every member of staff recognises that safeguarding against radicalisation and extremism is no different to safeguarding against any other vulnerability in today's society.

The Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation Policy sets out our beliefs, strategies and procedures to protect vulnerable individuals from being radicalised or exposed to extremist views, by identifying who they are and promptly providing them with support.

LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES

This policy should be read in conjunction with other school policies including:

- Safeguarding Policy
- Equality Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Behaviour Management Policy
- E-Safety Policy

National Guidelines:

- PREVENT Strategy HM Gov
- Keeping Children Safe in Education DfE
- Working Together to Safeguard Children HM Gov

AIMS AND PRINCIPLES

The Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation Policy is intended to provide a framework for dealing with issues relating to vulnerability, radicalisation and exposure to extreme views. We recognise that we are well placed to be able to identify safeguarding issues and this policy clearly sets out how the school will deal with such incidents and identifies how the curriculum and ethos underpins our actions.

The objectives are that teaching/support staff and governors:

- will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- will know what the school policy is on tackling extremism and radicalisation and will follow the policy guidance swiftly when issues arise.
- will understand the dangers of radicalisation and exposure to extremist views; building resilience against these and knowing what to do if they experience them.
- 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.

The main aims of this policy 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.

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. There are a number of behaviours which may indicate a child is at risk of being radicalised or exposed to extreme views.

These include:

- their style of dress or personal appearance to accord with the group.
- day-to-day behaviour becoming increasingly centred on an extremist ideology, group or cause.
- derogatory names for another group.
- related incidents committed by that person – these may include:
 - physical or verbal assault
 - provocative behaviour
 - damage to property
 - derogatory name calling
 - possession of prejudice-related materials
 - prejudice related ridicule or name calling

- inappropriate forms of address
- refusal to co-operate
- attempts to recruit to prejudice-related organisations
- condoning or supporting violence towards others

PROCEDURES FOR REFERRALS

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at Bewdley Primary School to date, it is important for us to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues which affect the local area and society in which we teach. Staff are reminded to suspend any 'professional disbelief' that instances of radicalisation 'could not happen here' and to be 'professionally inquisitive' where concerns arise, referring any concerns through the appropriate channels. (See appendix 1 – Dealing with referrals)

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 practise.

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

The Head Teacher and Senior Leadership Team 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 (see appendix 1 – Dealing with referrals)

LEADERS AND STAFF AND GOVERNORS

The Head Teacher and all members of the SLT are the leaders for referrals relating to extremism and radicalisation. In the unlikely event that no SLT members and the Head Teacher are not available, all staff know the channels by which to make referrals via the safeguarding board in the staffroom.

Staff will be fully briefed about what to do if they are concerned about the possibility of radicalisation relating to a pupil, or if they need to discuss specific children whom they consider to be vulnerable to radicalisation or extremist views.

The SLT will work in conjunction with the Head Teacher and external agencies to decide the best course of action to address concerns which arise.

THE ROLE OF THE CURRICULUM

Our school values and ethos promotes respect and friendship. Our curriculum is 'broad and balanced' and also promotes the values of 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 provision and Religious Education 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 Training and Staff Meeting opportunities in school, we will ensure that our staff are fully aware of the threats, risks and vulnerabilities that are linked to radicalisation.

They are aware of the process of radicalisation and how this might be identified early on and are aware of how we can provide support as a school to ensure that our children are resilient and able to resist involvement in radical or extreme activities. The DSL and Deputy DSL's attend safeguarding update training every two years with updates passed on to staff. All staff receive safeguarding training every three years which will include training on extremism and radicalisation. Additionally, the DSL attends Safeguarding County updates and passes on guidance and advice following these.

VISITORS AND THE USE OF SCHOOL PREMISES

If any member of staff wishes to invite a visitor in the school, they must first discuss this with their Key Stage Leader or Head Teacher. Only after agreement from the Head Teacher can the visitor enter school. They may be subject to a range of safeguarding checks, including DBS checks and photo identification, depending on the contact that they have with children.

Upon arriving at the school, all visitors including contractors, will be made aware of safeguarding guidance and notified of the DSLs.

If any agreement is made to allow non-school groups or organisations to use the premises, appropriate checks will be made before agreeing the contract. Usage will be monitored and, in the event of any behaviour not in-keeping with the Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation Policy, the school will contact the police and terminate the contract.

POLICY REVIEW

The Extremism and Radicalisation Risk Assessment will be reviewed annually as part of the overall Child Protection Policy review.

This policy will be reviewed on or before March 2025

Appendix 1 – Dealing with referrals

We are aware of the potential indicating factors that a child is vulnerable to being radicalised or exposed to extreme views, including peer pressure, influence from other people or the internet, bullying, crime and anti-social behaviour, family tensions, race/hate crime, lack of self-esteem or identity, prejudicial behaviour and personal or political grievances

When any member of staff has concerns that a pupil may be at risk of radicalisation or involvement in terrorism, they should speak with the DSL. They should then follow normal safeguarding procedures. If the matter is urgent then Worcester Police must be contacted by dialling 999. In non-urgent cases where police advice is sought then dial 101. The Department of Education has also set up a dedicated telephone helpline for staff and governors to raise concerns around Prevent (020 7340 7264).