

Horton Lodge Community Special School

'Working Together – Achieving Potential'



Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy

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1. Context

Pupils at Horton Lodge have a range of physical and learning needs alongside complex communication and sensory impairments. They have a number of adults and professionals working with and supporting them. It is the responsibility of all staff that work at Horton Lodge School to be aware of the Prevent Strategy and be vigilant. Every member of staff at Horton Lodge irrespective of role is made aware of their Prevent Duty. For many pupils at Horton Lodge we recognise that the Prevent strategy is not just about discussing extremism itself, which may not be appropriate for some pupils. It is also about teaching children values such as tolerance and mutual respect.

Horton Lodge is committed to providing a secure environment for pupils, where children feel safe and are kept safe. All staff and volunteers working at Horton Lodge 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. Preventing Radicalisation, Prevent Duty and Channel are covered in the whole school policy for safeguarding incorporating child protection policy.

2. Aims

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;
- Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images;
- Pupils 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, and 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.

3. Legislation and guidance

Under the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 the school also has a statutory duty to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into extremism.

This 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 in section 175 of the Education Act 2002 and should be read in conjunction with the school's Safeguarding Policy.

This Policy also draws upon the guidance contained in:

- The Staffordshire SSCB Procedures and DfE Guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2020;
- DCSF Resources Learning Together to be Safe;

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- Prevent: Resources Guide;
- Tackling Extremism in the UK;
- DfE's "Teaching Approaches that help Build Resilience to Extremism among Young People";
- Working together to safeguard children;
- The Prevent duty: Departmental advice for schools and childcare providers.

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

4. Definitions

- **British Values** are democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.
- **Extremism:** 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:** The process by which a person comes to support terrorism or forms of extremism leading to terrorism
- **PREVENT** is part of the Government's Counter-terrorism Strategy.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

5.1 The governors

In line with the provisions set out in the DfE guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2020 the governing body will challenge the school's senior leadership team on the delivery of this policy and monitor its effectiveness.

The governor who oversees Safeguarding including Prevent is **Pat Fisher**

The Safeguarding governor will:

- Help to raise awareness of PREVENT at governing board meetings;
- Monitor the Safeguarding Lead and Single Point of contact for PREVENT and update the governing board on this;

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

5.2 The Headteacher

The Headteacher will:

- 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.

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

5.3 Designated Safeguarding Leads

The Designated Safeguarding Lead: **Lucy Bloor**

The Single Point of Contact for PREVENT: **Jo Owen**

The DSLs will:

- Ensure that staff understand the issues of radicalisation, are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns;
- Receive safeguarding concerns about children and young people 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;
- Report to the governing body on these matters.

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

6. Staff, students and volunteers

Staff will be alert to the fact that whilst Extremism and Radicalisation are managed as 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 become aware of information about a child's family that may indicate a child at risk of harm. (These examples are for illustration and are not definitive or exhaustive)

Therefore all adults working at our school (including visiting staff, volunteers, contractors, 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 Headteacher who will make a referral to children's social care or the Staffordshire Prevent team when appropriate.

7. 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 some 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, including via PSHE promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC.

We will ensure that all of our teaching approaches help pupils to build resilience to extremism and give pupils a positive sense of identity through the development of critical thinking skills.

We will be flexible enough to adapt our teaching approaches, as appropriate, so as to address specific issues and be relevant to the current issues and insight into extremism and radicalisation.

- Making a connection with young people using a pupil centred approach;
- Facilitating a 'safe space' for dialogue;
- Equipping our pupils with the appropriate skills, knowledge, understanding and awareness for resilience.

We will also work with local partners, families and communities in our efforts to ensure our school community understands and embraces the local context and our values in challenging extremist views, to assist in the broadening of our pupil's experiences and horizons. We will help support pupils who may be vulnerable to adverse influences as part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities and where we believe a pupil is being directly affected by extremist materials or influences we will ensure that that pupil is safeguarded, supported and offered mentoring intervention. Additionally in such instances our school will seek external support from the Local Authority and/or local partnership structures working to prevent extremism.

8. Use of External Agencies and Speakers

At Horton Lodge we encourage the use of external agencies or speakers to enrich the experiences of our pupils, however we will positively vet, risk assess 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 are inconsistent with, or are in complete opposition to, the school's values and ethos and our duties in regard to this and our Safeguarding policy. We must be aware and clear of benefit to pupils through such activity.

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;
- Activities are properly embedded in the curriculum and clearly mapped to schemes of work to avoid contradictory messages;
- Activities are well-managed, fully supervised and subject to robust safeguarding procedures;
- Activities are matched to the needs of pupils;
- Activities are carefully evaluated by schools to ensure that they are effective.

9. Internet Safety

Children are taught how to stay safe when using the internet and encouraged to recognise that people are not always who they say they are online. The school uses an E safety mascot ('BEE safe') to remind all children of our internet safety rules.

Information is shared with parents to support them in keeping children safe online. They are taught to seek adult help if they are upset or concerned about anything they read to see on the internet. The filtering systems used in our school report inappropriate content, including extremist material, but children are regularly reminded to report inappropriate content.

10. Referring Concerns

Where there are concerns of extremism or radicalisation parents, pupils and staff will be encouraged to make use of our internal systems to raise any issue with senior leadership. Our lead person for Prevent is the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead who would normally be the first point of contact should there be concerns. If for any reason this creates a difficulty for the referrer, they can contact the Local Authority

'Prevent' co-ordinator, First Response Team, Education Safeguarding Advice Service or Ofsted, depending on the level of concern. Contact details for these agencies can be found at the end of this policy document.

Channel: School staff understand when it is appropriate to make a referral to the Channel programme. Channel is a programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. It provides a mechanism for schools to make referrals if they are concerned that an individual might be vulnerable to radicalisation. An individual's engagement with the programme is entirely voluntary at all stages. In addition to information sharing, if a staff member makes a referral to Channel, they may be asked to attend a Channel panel to discuss the individual referred to determine whether support is required.

11. Training

All staff, including temporary staff and volunteers will receive an induction in regard to our Safeguarding policy and procedures. This will include information and guidance about our duty to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

Whole school in-service training in regard to safeguarding and child protection will be organised for staff, governors and volunteers at least every three years and will comply with the prevailing arrangements approved by Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Board and will, in part, include awareness raising on extremism and radicalisation and its safeguarding implications.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead will attend appropriate and relevant training courses in regard to safeguarding children, including the appropriate inter-agency training organised by the Safeguarding Children Board at least every two years. This will include accessing training on extremism and radicalisation and its safeguarding implications. The Designated Safeguarding Lead will ensure that all adults working in the school receive appropriate levels of training, guidance and support in regard to safeguarding children from extremism and radicalisation on recorded regular basis.

12. Recruitment and conduct

The arrangements for recruiting all staff and volunteers to our school will follow 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.

Referrals to the Staffordshire LADO service will be made when appropriate as per statutory guidance and our Safeguarding Children Policy.

13. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every year by the SENCO. At every review, the policy will be shared with the governing board.

14. Links with other policies and documents

This policy is linked to our:

- Staff Code of Conduct
- Teaching and Learning Policy
- Whistle-blowing Policy
- Acceptable use of the IT
- Behaviour Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Equality Policy
- PSHE Policy
- SMSC Policy
- RE Policy

15. Contact details:

First Response Team (re concerns that an identified Staffordshire child or children are at risk or LADO referrals) 0800 1313 126

Emergency Duty Service (children's social care) 0845 6042 886

Staffordshire Prevent Team: 01785 238239 or 01785 233109 Email: prevent@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk

Education Safeguarding Advice Service (Staffordshire) – 01785 895836

Ofsted contact centre 0300 123 1231

Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Board procedures can be found on: www.staffsscb.org.uk

SSCB Procedure 6L: Safeguarding People who are vulnerable to being drawn into violent extremism and / or terrorism in Staffordshire & Stoke on Trent

Prevent Duty Guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protecting-children-from-radicalisation-the-prevent-duty>

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020

UK Safer Internet Centre: www.saferinternet.org.uk

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/445977/3799_Revised_Prevent_Duty_Guidance_England_Wales_V2-Interactive.pdf

<https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/edu/screen1.html#>