

Horton Lodge Community Special School

‘Working hand in hand to achieve potential’



Promoting welfare and wellbeing by
Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Safeguarding Policy

PREVENT

Approved by:

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and Radicalisation Safeguarding Policy (PREVENT)
September 2021

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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 several adults and professionals working with and supporting them. It is the responsibility of all staff that work at Horton Lodge 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.

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 Schools' Safeguarding Policies.

1. Aims

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

- Disclosures by students 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 artwork 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 students in other schools or settings
- Students 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 schools 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.

2. 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.

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This Policy also draws upon the guidance contained in:

- The Staffordshire SSCB Procedures
- DfE Guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021 and updates
- DCSF Resources Learning Together to be Safe
- Prevent Duty Guidance from DfE
- Ofsted Handbook
- Tackling Extremism in the UK
- DfE's "Teaching Approaches that help Build Resilience to Extremism among Young People"
- Working together to safeguard children
- UK Safer Internet Centre:
- www.saferinternet.org.uk

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.

3. Definitions

- **British Values** are democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, 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.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

This policy was considered and adopted by Horton Lodge Special School in line with the overall duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children as set out in the DfE guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021'. Parents will be issued with a hard copy of this policy on request. This policy will also be made available to parents via the school website.

The school will actively evaluate the effectiveness of this policy, including by monitoring the staff group's understanding and application of the procedures within this policy as part of the duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

5.1 The governors

The governors will undertake appropriate training and updating to ensure clarity about their role and the parameters of responsibilities as Governors, including their statutory safeguarding duties they will shape the ethos and values of our school and support us in tackling extremism and radicalisation.

In line with the provisions set out in the DfE guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2021 the Governing Body will challenge the schools senior management team on the delivery of this policy and monitor its effectiveness.

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

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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 Lead

The Designated Safeguarding Lead: **Geraldine Fallows**

The Single Point of Contact for PREVENT: **Geraldine Fallows**

The DSL 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.

5. Child Protection

Please refer to our Safeguarding Policies for the full procedural framework on our Child Protection duties. 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 in our schools (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 respective Designated Safeguarding Lead or Headteacher who will make a referral to children's social care or the Staffordshire Prevent team when appropriate.

The Designated Safeguarding Leads are the focus people and local 'experts' 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.

6. 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 schools this will be achieved by good teaching, including via PSHE/RSE. We will adopt the methods outlined in the Government's guidance 'Teaching approaches that help build resilience to extremism among young people' DfE and Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools.

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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 ensure that all of our staff are equipped to recognise extremism and are skilled and confident enough to challenge it.

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. In doing so we will apply methodologies following three broad categories of:

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

Therefore, this approach will be embedded within the ethos of our schools so that pupils know and understand what safe and acceptable behaviour is in the context of extremism and radicalisation. This will work in conjunction with our schools' approach to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of students as defined in OfSTEDs School Inspection Handbook September 2020 and will include the sound use of whole school and class assemblies to help further promote a rounded development of our pupils. Our goal is to build mutual respect and understanding and to promote the use of dialogue not violence as a form of conflict resolution. We will achieve this by using a curriculum that includes:

- Citizenship programmes
- Open discussion and debate
- Work on anti-violence and a restorative approach addressed throughout the curriculum
- Focused educational programmes

We will also work with local partners, families and communities in our efforts to ensure our school community understand and embraces the local context and our values in challenging extremist views, to assist in the broadening of our student'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 student is being directly affected by extremist materials or influences we will ensure that that student is safeguarded, supported and offered mentoring intervention. Additionally, in such instances our schools will seek external support from the Local Authority and/or local partnership structures working to prevent extremism.

Through these measures we will promote the values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs. We will teach and encourage students to respect one another and to respect and tolerate difference, especially those of a different faith or no faith. It is indeed our most fundamental responsibility to keep our students safe and prepare them for life in modern multi-cultural Britain and globally.

7. 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 schools values and ethos and our duties in regard to this and our Safeguarding policies. We must be aware and clear of benefit to pupils and students through such activity.

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- Our schools will assess the suitability and effectiveness of input from external agencies or individuals to ensure that:
- Any messages communicated to students are consistent with the ethos of the Trust 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 students 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 well-managed, fully supervised and subject to robust safeguarding procedures.
- Activities are matched to the needs of pupils and students
- Activities are carefully evaluated by schools to ensure that they are effective
- That the ethos of our schools is to encourage students to understand diverse views and ideologies, appropriate to their age, understanding and abilities, and to be able to actively engage in informed debate, and we may appropriately permit the 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 students recognise risk and build resilience to manage any such risk to themselves or their peers where appropriate to their age and ability but also to help students develop the critical thinking skills needed to engage in informed debate as part of a wider community.

8. 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 management. Our lead person for Prevent is the 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' coordinator, 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. Staff should refer to the schools Whistle Blowing Policy under which they are entitled to employment protection for raising genuine concerns outside of the school environment.

9. Training

All staff, including temporary staff and volunteers will receive an induction 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 relating 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 Leads 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 Leads will ensure that all adults working in the schools receive appropriate levels of training, guidance and support in regard to safeguarding children from extremism and radicalisation on recorded regular basis.

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10. Recruitment and staff conduct

The arrangements for recruiting all staff, permanent and volunteers, to our schools 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.

We will be alert to the possibility that persons may seek to gain positions within our school so as to unduly influence our character and ethos. We are aware that such persons seek to limit the opportunities for our pupils and 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 schools and staff team we will minimise the opportunities for extremist views to prevail.

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

11. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the DSL however it may be amended and adopted 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 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
- PSHE/RSE Policy
- SMSC including British Values Policy
- RE Policy

12.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: Tel: 01785 238239 or 01785 233109

Email: prevent@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk

Education Safeguarding Advice Service (Staffordshire) - 01785 895836

Ofsted contact centre 0300 123 1231



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