



Plympton St Maurice Primary School

Prevent Policy

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This Child Protection policy recognises that extremism and Prevention of radicalisation is broadly a safeguarding issue.

As with all child protection, we will follow the requirement to refer to Children's Social Care appropriately where the child is at risk or in need, due to extremist behaviours and/or influences.

We have a Prevent Duty policy and reference is made to the Prevent duty in the Child Protection Policy, Safeguarding policy, E-safety policy, Lettings and Hirings policy, and others as appropriate.

As a Respecting Rights of the Child school, we believe all children have a fundamental right to be protected from harm. All children have a fundamental right to expect schools to provide a safe and secure environment. We have a legal and professional duty and responsibility for keeping them safe.

We will help support pupils who may be vulnerable to such influences as part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities and where we believe a pupil is being directly influenced by extremist materials or influences, we will ensure the pupil is offered mentoring. We will seek external support from the Local Authority, the Police, and/or local partnership structures working to prevent extremism.

However, staff at Plympton St Maurice Primary will be alert to the fact that whilst extremism and radicalisation are broadly a safeguarding issue there may be instances where a child or children may be at risk of direct 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 be aware of information about a child's family that may equally place a child at risk of harm. (This example is illustrative and not exhaustive).

Therefore all adults working at Plympton St Maurice Primary School, including visiting staff, volunteers, contractors, students on placement, guest speakers or those adults the children come in contact with on trips, are required to report instances where they believe a child may be at risk or harm or neglect to the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Head teacher, including any harm through extremism or radicalisation.

The new Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 contains and places a legal duty on specified authorities and public bodies which includes schools to have "*due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.*" This is also known as the Prevent duty. This is found in Sections 26 and 29. It is backed by statutory guidance which is monitored by Ofsted through their existing inspection procedures. It builds on the 2002 and 2011 Prevent strategy. All staff have had WRAP training.

Schools have a duty to educate children to be tolerant whilst protecting those who may be at risk of racial hatred or vulnerable to radicalisation.

Section 26 of the Counter Terrorism Act 2015 states that schools should pay:

‘Due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.’

‘Being drawn into terrorism includes not just violent extremism but also non-violent extremism and can popularise views which terrorists exploit.’

The school has a duty “...to forbid political indoctrination and secure a balanced presentation of political issues.”

These duties are imposed on maintained schools by sections 406 and 407 of the Education Act 1996. It is our school’s duty to ensure children are safe from a range of views which are extremist and seek to radicalise them, therefore, our staff have had training to be confident with the skills to handle these issues. Our children need to understand that this school is a safe place for informed debate and the School Parliament has worked on this through the Respecting Rights of the Child Award. We teach the children through PSHEE/Citizenship/RE/SMSC/English/History and British values links, the skills to empower children to think critically so as to understand and tolerate difference, especially of other faiths and of no faith. Discussions will be in a safe and secure way.

The Government has defined extremism in the *Prevent* strategy as:

Extremism is...

‘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 can also include in the definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces.’

Racial Hatred and Radicalisation

Radicalisation is...

‘The process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.’

Schools have a duty to educate children to be tolerant whilst protecting those who may be at risk of racial hatred or vulnerable to radicalisation.

It sets a range of expectations on schools:-

Staff will:

- 1. Be alert to possible signs of extremism**
- 2. Use their professional skills, instincts and judgements**
- 3. Follow existing safeguarding procedures**
- 4. Be balanced, proportionate and reasonable**

5. Notice-issues of concern
6. Check-with other colleagues/agencies
7. Share-concerns via the safeguarding procedures in a professional manner

Every member of staff has a duty to understand and identify children at risk of radicalisation.

Signs and Risk Factors

This is not a catch all check list but we have used the e-safetysupport.com check list for anti-radicalisation. Disclosures may be in the form of writings, drawings, possessing or accessing extremist materials. Expressions of support for terrorism may be using extremist narratives and the “us and them” language, justifying the use of violence to solve real or perceived grievances.

Personal crisis put children at risk. These may be family tensions, sense of isolation, low self-esteem, and changes in friendship groups, searching for answers to questions about identity, faith or belonging. Similarly personal circumstances such as migration, local community tensions and events affecting the child’s country or region of origin, a sense of grievance triggered by personal experience of racism or decimation or aspects of government policy.

Plympton St Maurice will:

- *Understand that prevent is pre-criminal and does not have to be proven beyond reasonable doubt.
- *Not all extremism leads to terrorism.
- * Teach a broad and balanced curriculum, and will debate “difficult” issues through dialogue.
- *Promote fundamental British values, staff will examine schemes of work under Britishness and seek opportunities to make links.
- *Challenge which is not the same as “spying” and have a duty to whistle blow if appropriate.
- *Risk assess the likelihood of pupils being drawn into terrorism and support for extremism.
- *Work in partnership.
- *Train staff to give them the confidence, knowledge and skills to identify children at risk.
- *Have robust IT policies which protect children from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet at school.
- *Monitor effectively and ensure robust safeguarding policies are in place to identify children at risk, intervene and refer pupils as appropriate.
- *Report any concerns.

The Governors will act as critical friend and will have “due diligence” in monitoring the activities and curriculum of Plympton St Maurice Primary school.

The Head and Assistant Head teacher as Designated Safeguarding lead will have a “prevent” remit.

Accessing Material Online and propaganda online

- Violent extremists use propaganda to spread their ideology and provide religious or moral justification for acts of terror and violence around the world.
- The majority of propaganda is spread online nowadays with extremists using social networking sites as their main recruiting tool.

Plympton St Maurice Primary School will:

- Strengthening community cohesion.
- Reacting to major world events.
- Enabling children to become active citizens
- Increasing the religious knowledge and understanding of staff.
- Educating children about different religions.
- Helping children to critically evaluate online material.

The Current situation, Britishness and extremism

Radicalisation and Counter Extremism relates to it in all its forms-international terrorism, left and right wing extremism, and so is not only Islamic extremism.

The most significant of these threats is currently from terrorist organisations in Syria, Libya and Iraq, with Al Qaida associated groups.

But terrorists associated with the extreme right also pose a continued threat to our safety and security. The white supremacist ideology of extreme right-wing groups has also provided both the inspiration and justification for people who have committed extreme right-wing terrorist acts. People can become self-radicalised through Facebook and other social media networks.

Islamist extremists regard Western intervention in Muslim-majority countries as a 'war with Islam', creating a narrative of 'them' and 'us'. Their ideology includes the uncompromising belief that people cannot be both Muslim and British, and that Muslims living here should not participate in our democracy.

Islamist extremists specifically attack the principles of civic participation and social cohesion. These extremists purport to identify grievances to which terrorist organisations then claim to have a solution. The strategy also means intervening to stop people moving from extremist (albeit legal) groups into terrorist-related activity.



5 Key Actions



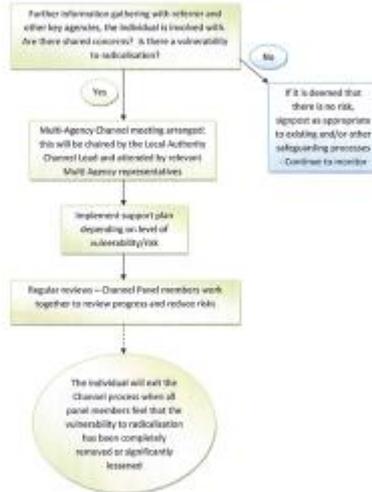
1. Understand how an extremist narrative can lead to harm.
2. Understand how to prevent harm to individuals.
3. Understand how to support individuals.
4. Increase the resilience of pupils.
5. Allow grievances to be aired.

Learning Together to Be Safe 2008

Keeping Children Safe in Education-2015 has implications for following the duty on schools in the exercise of their function to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 also places a duty for Channel Panels to be in place. We as a school will cooperate with partners in the panel in the discharge of its function in identifying and assessing the extent to which individuals are at risk of being drawn into terrorism and the support provided to those individuals.

The Channel Referral Process

Once a referral has been made and it meets the Channel criteria, the individual/group become part of the Channel process, the Police will carry out the below process with the support of multi agency partners working to the relevant Local Authority lead. This process takes place in order to identify the level of risk and an appropriate support plan where necessary.



If you wish to know more about Channel please contact the Regional Prevent/Channel lead (South) @ Sara Norman on 02492 452555, alternatively send any questions to prevent@derwentdale.norfolk.pnn.police.uk

Help and advice

- Encourage positive outlets for your child's energies. Sports, clubs, hobbies, they all provide identity and a sense of community. It's just a case of finding the right one.
- Allow open and honest discussion. Young people are naturally curious. Stopping discussion about extremism, radicalisation and terrorism is only likely to make it more interesting to your child.

If you have concerns

If you have concerns about your child relating to extremism and radicalisation, you can receive support and advice from your local police by telephoning 101. They will treat the matter with total confidence and will do all they can to help to prevent your child turning to behaviour that breaks the law.

You can also contact us on 01600 891 548 for free, confidential advice.



Extremism & Radicalisation

PREVENTING TERRORISM



Help and further advice

What can you do if you feel that your child's behaviour crosses the line into extremism?

- Talk to your child
- Encourage others that they look up to such as friends and family to talk to them
- Get help from school - they have trained Child Protection Officers who understand these issues
- Contact a specialist organisation

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A Guide for Parents.

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What is the Prevent strategy?

Prevent is a government strategy designed to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorist or extremist causes.

The Prevent strategy covers all types of terrorism and extremism, including the extreme right wing, religious extremists and other causes.

How does the Prevent strategy apply to schools?

From July 2015 all schools (as well as other organisations) have a duty to safeguard children from radicalisation and extremism.

This means we have a responsibility to protect children from extremist and violent views in the same way we protect them from drugs or gang violence.

Importantly, we can provide a safe place for pupils to discuss these issues so they better understand how to protect themselves.

What does this mean in practice?

Many of the things we already do in school to help children become positive, happy members of society also contribute to the Prevent strategy.

These include:

- Exploring other cultures and religions and promoting diversity
- Challenging prejudices and racist comments
- Developing critical thinking skills and a strong, positive self-identity
- Promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils, as well as British values such as democracy

We will also protect children from the risk of radicalisation, for example by using filters on the internet to make sure they can't access extremist and terrorist material, or by vetting visitors who come into school to work with pupils.

Different schools will carry out the Prevent duty in different ways, depending on the age of the children and the needs of the community.

Frequently Asked Questions

How does Prevent relate to British values?

Schools have been required to promote British values since 2014, and this will continue to be part of our response to the Prevent strategy.

British values include:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty and mutual respect
- Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

Isn't my child too young to learn about extremism?

The Prevent strategy is not just about discussing extremism itself, which may not be appropriate for younger children. It is also about teaching children values such as tolerance and mutual respect.

The school will make sure any discussions are suitable for the age and maturity of the children involved.

Is extremism really a risk in our area?

Extremism can take many forms, including political, religious and misogynistic extremism. Some of these may be a bigger threat in our area than others.

We will give children the skills to protect them from any extremist views they may encounter, now or later in their lives.

KEY TERMS

Extremism – vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values such as democracy, the rule of law and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

Ideology – a set of beliefs

Terrorism – a violent action against people or property, designed to create fear and advance a political, religious or ideological cause

Radicalisation – the process by which a person comes to support extremism and terrorism



Introduction

As a parent you may be worried about how extremism and radicalisation might affect your child.

We have put together this leaflet to help you understand more about extremism and radicalisation, and how you can deal with these issues.

Who are we?

Vichra Ltd is a training and consultancy company specialising in tackling extremism and radicalisation.

We work with schools and colleges throughout the UK to help make sure that people have a better understanding of the dangers of young people becoming involved with violent extremism.

For free, confidential advice about these issues, please call us on 01600 891 546.

What are extremism and radicalisation?

Any idea can be taken to an extreme, but the type of extremism that this leaflet looks at is when ideas and opinions lead on to violence.

We often hear on the news of young people that have been radicalised and drawn into terrorist groups, but what does that mean? In simple terms radicalisation is the process of someone developing extremist views.

Should I be worried?

Despite the high levels of media attention given to these issues, the chances of them affecting you as a parent are very low.

It is important to remember that the most people will never support terrorism and that the amount of young people that become involved in violent extremism is very small.



Talk to someone if you have concerns.

What to look out for

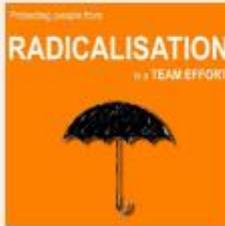
You know your child better than anyone else, and are best placed to notice any changes in their behaviour. Talk to someone if you have concerns. (See over the page for who to talk to.)

It is the job of everyone to prevent the radicalisation of young people. Parents, teachers, friends and family all have a part to play in making sure that extremist ideas are challenged.

Unfortunately, there isn't a checklist of what makes someone become an extremist, every individual is unique.

Remember

- Young people want to push the boundaries. They are searching for an identity in a confusing world.
- Encouraging young people to learn about and understand alternative points of view is an essential role of a parent.



What is the government doing about extremism and radicalisation?

The government recently introduced a law to make it compulsory for places such as schools and hospitals to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

This means that frontline staff are working hard to ensure that young people are protected from extremism and radicalisation.

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