



Preventing Extremism & Radicalisation Policy

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Signature:			

Wyre Forest School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. As a school we recognise that safeguarding against any other vulnerability. At Wyre Forest School 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.

In formulating this policy, the Governors have taken account of the guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) who has called for all public bodies to make explicit their preventative measures to minimise the threat of extremism in their setting.

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.

The Governing Body has a zero-tolerance approach to extremist behaviour for all community members. We rely on our strong values to steer our work and ensure the pastoral care of our pupils protects them from exposure to negative influences.

Aims and Principles

The main aim of this policy statement is 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 to ensure that we work alongside other professional bodies and agencies to ensure that our pupils are safe from harm.

The principle objectives are that:

- Pupils are encouraged to follow our Behaviour and Anti-Bullying policies. These are complemented by the key British Values of tolerance, respect, understanding, compassion and harmonious living.
- Pupils are helped to understand the importance of democracy and freedom of speech, through assemblies, events and through the elected School Council members.
- Pupils are taught how to keep themselves safe, in school and when using the internet.
- We try and arrange opportunities for pupils to participate in local community events so that they appreciate and value their neighbours and friends who may not share their faith background.
- Pupils wellbeing, confidence and resilience is promoted through our planned curriculum pathways.

- Pupils are supported in making good choices, so they understand the impact and consequence of their actions on others.
- Governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff demonstrate an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school.

The Office for Security and Counter Terrorism works to counter the threat from terrorism and their work is detailed in the counter terrorism strategy CONTEST. This strategy is based on four areas of work:

- **Pursue** – to stop terrorist attacks
- **Prevent** – to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism
- **Protect** – to strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack
- **Prepare** – to mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack

Our role as a school, outlined more specifically in the DCSF document, 'Learning together to be safe: A toolkit to help schools contribute to the prevention of violent extremism.'

Primarily our work will be concerned with **PREVENTION**.

Procedures for Referrals

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at Wyre Forest School to date, it is important 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 through the appropriate channels (currently through the schools Designated Senior Leaders).

This policy is strictly adhered to should issues arise.

The Role of the Curriculum

Our curriculum pathways promote respect, tolerance and diversity. Children are encouraged to express themselves through discussions, debates and consultations. The RE, PSHCE and SMSC provision is embedded across the curriculum and underpins the ethos of the school. Children learn about our faiths and visit places of worship and are taught about how to stay safe when using the Internet.

Staff Training

All staff complete the home office online training as well as regular refresher reminders.