

## **Safeguarding children**

### **1.12.2 Preventing Radicalisation**

#### **Policy statement for St Joseph's Pre-school**

At St Joseph's Pre-school we ensure that through our vision, values, rules, curriculum and teaching we promote tolerance and respect for all cultures, faiths and lifestyles. The trustee's also ensure that this ethos is reflected and implemented effectively in policy and practice and that there are effective risk assessments in place to safeguard and promote children's welfare.

We have a duty to prepare our children for life in modern Britain and to keep them safe. Pupils who attend our Pre-school have the right to learn in safety. We do not tolerate bullying of any kind and will challenge derogatory language and behaviour towards others.

#### **Preventing Radicalisation Policy**

This is part of our commitment to keeping children safe. Since the 'Education and Inspections Act 2006' schools have a duty to promote community cohesion. Over the last few years, global events have led to a growth of extremist viewpoints, including advocacy of violent extremism.

Early Years settings have an important part to play in both educating children and young people about extremism and recognising when pupils start to become radicalised. In March 2015, new statutory duties were placed on schools by the Counter Terrorism and Security Act (2015) which means they must work to prevent children being drawn into extremism.

Safeguarding children from all risks of harm is an important part of a Pre-school's work and protecting them from extremism is one aspect of that.

#### **Statutory Duties**

The duty to prevent children and young people being radicalised is set out in the following documents.

- Counter Terrorism and Security Act (2015)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (2015)
- Prevent Duty Guidance (2015)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015)

#### **Definitions**

**Extremism** is defined in the 2011 Prevent strategy as 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** refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

**British Values** are democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

### **Role of the Lead Practitioner**

It is the role of the Lead Practitioner to:

- ensure that the Pre-school and its staff respond to preventing radicalisation on a day-to-day basis;
- ensure that the Pre-school's curriculum addresses the issues involved in radicalization;
- ensure that staff conduct is consistent with preventing radicalization.

### **Role of Designated Safeguarding Lead**

It is the role of the designated safeguarding lead to:

- 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 radicalization;
- make referrals to appropriate agencies with regard to concerns about radicalization;
- liaise with partners, including the local authority and the police;
- report to the Lead Practitioner on these matters.

### **Role of staff**

It is the role of staff to understand the issues of radicalisation, are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns.

### **Internet Safety**

The internet provides children and young people with access to a wide-range of content, some of which is harmful. Extremists use the internet, including social media, to share their messages. The filtering systems used in our Pre-school blocks inappropriate content, including extremist content.

The Acceptable Use of ICT Policy refers to preventing radicalisation and related extremist content. Pupils and staff know how to report internet content that is inappropriate or of concern.

### **Staff Training**

Staff will be given training to help them understand the issues of radicalisation, are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns. This information also forms part of induction safeguarding training. Staff are updated as necessary in weekly safeguarding briefings.

### **Safer Recruitment**

We ensure that the staff we appoint to the Pre-school are suitable, our recruitment procedures are rigorous and we follow the statutory guidance published in part 3 of *Keeping Children Safe in Education (2018)*. At St Joseph's Pre-school we ensure that we have a member on every recruitment panel who has received the appropriate recruitment and selection training and that we have more than one member of staff suitably trained.

All our staff are appropriately qualified and have the relevant employment history and checks to ensure they are safe to work with children in. References are sought from both the most recent employer and the most recent educational setting (if applicable). Internal references are only acceptable from someone with authority, not a work colleague. We

endeavor to check that any electronic reference received is from legitimate source. Vetting and barring checks are undertaken on relevant people, including trustees and volunteers. We recommend that staff enroll on the DBS update service.

### **Signs of vulnerability**

There are no known definitive indicators that a young person is vulnerable to radicalisation, but there are number of signs that together increase the risk. Signs of vulnerability include:

- underachievement;
- being in possession of extremist literature;
- poverty;
- social exclusion;
- traumatic events;
- global or national events;
- religious conversion;
- change in behavior;
- extremist influences;
- conflict with family over lifestyle;
- confused identify;
- victim or witness to race or hate crimes;
- rejection by peers, family, social groups or faith.

### **Recognising Extremism**

Early indicators of radicalisation or extremism may include:

- showing sympathy for extremist causes;
- glorifying violence, especially to other faiths or cultures;
- making remarks or comments about being at extremist events or rallies outside school;
- evidence of possessing illegal or extremist literature;
- advocating messages similar to illegal organisations or other extremist groups;
- out of character changes in dress, behaviour and peer relationships (but there are also very powerful narratives, programmes and networks that young people can come across online so involvement with particular groups may not be apparent);
- secretive behavior;
- online searches or sharing extremist messages or social profiles;
- intolerance of difference, including faith, culture, gender, race or sexuality;
- graffiti, art work or writing that displays extremist themes;
- attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others;
- verbalising anti-Western or anti-British views;
- advocating violence towards others;

### **Referral Process**

Staff and visitors to the Pre-school must refer all concerns about children and young people who show signs of vulnerability or radicalisation must be passed to the Designated Safeguarding Lead using the usual methods for reporting other safeguarding concerns. When there are significant concerns about a pupil, the Designated Safeguarding Lead in liaison with the Lead Practitioner will make a referral to the appropriate body.

### **Monitoring and Review**

This policy will be monitored by the Trustees at least annually by receiving a report from the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

<b>Version Number</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Purpose of change</b>	<b>Date</b>
1.0	E Kemp	New policy	Nov 2017
2.0	K Coupe	Reviewed, updated and inclusion of version control	7 Nov 2018
3.0	K Coupe	Comprehensive review in line with safeguarding and Keeping Children Safe in Education 2018	27 Feb 2019 Cttee Mtg