

ANTI-RADICALISATION POLICY

Approved by the Board on Trustees, 15 July 2015.

1. CONTEXT AND PRINCIPLES

Greenshaw High School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its students.

As a school we recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation toward violent extremism and terrorism is similar to safeguarding against any other vulnerability. This policy is therefore consistent with and integrates with our Safeguarding Policy.

In democratic societies "radical" is not an actionable label. People can have radical opinions, change their world view and move from one social network to another. Radicalisation toward violent extremism is a concern, however, for the wellbeing of the general public and the democratic system.

The most effective way to safeguard our students against radicalisation toward violent extremism and terrorism is to promote our shared values and virtues, community responsibility and the celebration of diversity. We want our school to be a safe space in which children and young people can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and the extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology, and learn how to challenge these ideas, which avoids political indoctrination and secures a balanced presentation of political issues.

The Anti-radicalisation policy sets out our beliefs, strategies and procedures to protect vulnerable individuals from being radicalised toward violent extremism and terrorism, by identifying who they are and providing them with support.

2. LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES

This anti-radicalisation policy complements and should be read in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Safeguarding Policy
- Equality Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- SMSC Policy

3. DEFINITIONS

In the context of this policy, 'radicalisation' is defined as the act or process by which an individual is persuaded to make fundamental changes to their beliefs so that they come to favour violent extremism or terrorism to achieve fundamental changes in political, economic or social conditions, institutions or habits of the mind.

4. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

This anti-radicalisation policy is intended to provide a framework for dealing with issues relating to vulnerability of radicalisation toward violent extremism and terrorism. It

clearly sets out how the school will deal with such incidents and identifies how the curriculum and ethos underpins our actions.

The objectives of the policy are that:

- All governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff will have an understanding of what radicalisation toward violent extremism and terrorism is and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- All governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff will know what the school policy is on anti-radicalisation and will follow the policy when issues arise.
- All parents and pupils will know that the school has policies in place to keep pupils safe from harm and that the school regularly reviews its systems to ensure they are appropriate and effective.

The main aims of this policy are to ensure that staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalisation toward violent extremism and terrorism; that they overcome professional disbelief that such issues will not happen here and ensure that we work alongside other professional bodies and agencies to ensure that our pupils are safe from harm.

5. THE ROLE OF THE CURRICULUM

Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. Children are encouraged to share their views and recognise that they are entitled to have their own different beliefs which should not be used to influence others.

Our SMSC policy and PSHE provision is embedded across the curriculum, and directs our assemblies and underpins the ethos of the school. It is recognised that children with low aspirations are more vulnerable to radicalisation and therefore we strive to equip our pupils with confidence, self-belief, respect and tolerance as well as setting high standards and expectations for themselves.

Children are regularly taught about how to stay safe when using the internet and are encouraged to recognise that people are not always who they say they are online. They are taught to seek adult help if they are upset or concerned about anything they read or see on the internet.

6. STAFF TRAINING

Through INSET opportunities in school, we will ensure that our staff are fully aware of:

- the threats, risks and vulnerabilities that are linked to radicalisation toward violent extremism and terrorism;
- the process of radicalisation toward violent extremism and terrorism and how this might be identified early on; and
- how we can provide support as a school to ensure that our children are resilient and able to resist involvement in violent extremist activities.

7. INDICATORS

The following observable indicators are manifestations of possible radicalisation toward violent extremism and terrorism. Each indicator is just that—it indicates that a person

may be radicalising toward violent extremism; it does not automatically deem them radical and/or a threat.

Key indicators are:

- Change in physical appearance and/or attire
- Disconnecting from previous friendship groups
- Active promotion of an extremist ideology
- Seeking to impose radical or extreme views on others
- Association with known extremist groups

Secondary indicators include:

- Increased incidents of verbal abuse / prejudicial language
- Conflict with peers
- Self-identified feelings of isolation
- Accessing inappropriate material in the internet

In schools these will often be manifested in:

- Attitude to authority
- Demotivation about learning
- Changes in friendship groups
- Seeking support / mental health issues
- Damage to property
- Breakdown in parent-student relationship

8. Process

If a governor, teacher, teaching assistant or member of non-teaching staff has concerns that an individual may be at risk of radicalisation toward violent extremism and terrorism they should refer the matter to the appropriate person under the school's Safeguarding Policy.

9. External speakers

If a speaker is to be invited into school, the member of staff inviting them must take account of this policy in considering their suitability, and if in doubt refer the matter to the headteacher. External speakers must at all times be supervised by a member of school staff.

10. POLICY REVIEW

This Anti-radicalisation Policy will be reviewed annually as part of the overall Safeguarding policy review.

Additional materials

Prevent strategy, GOV.UK – Home Office (Adobe pdf file)

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/97976/prevent-strategy-review.pdf