



ELMGROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

ANTI RADICALISATION POLICY AND STATEMENT OF BRITISH VALUES

November 2023

Next review November 2025

At Elmgrove Primary School and Nursery we take pride in our multi-cultural community. We believe that all children can be encouraged to do their best and succeed. Each child is valued as an individual and we work with parents and carers to foster self-confidence, self-discipline and mutual respect. Elmgrove is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. All staff recognise that safeguarding and creating a safeguarding culture is the responsibility of everyone who works here. As a school we recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation is no different from safeguarding against any other vulnerability. 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, we have taken account of the guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) which calls for all public bodies to make explicit their preventative measures to minimise the threat of extremism in their setting, including the Schools' Responsibilities, published by HM Government, effective from 1st July 2015.

CONTEXT

Relevant Guidance

The government's Prevent Strategy

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

CONTEST

The Office for Security & 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, known as the 4P Prevent Strategy to combat radicalization and terrorism:

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

Schools' responsibilities from 1 July 2015

HM Government has published guidance for authorities, including schools, on their responsibilities under the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act.

Under the Act, schools and other authorities have a duty to: "have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism".

The guidance outlines activities schools will be expected to demonstrate, including:

- Assessing the risk of pupils being drawn into terrorism, and having robust safeguarding policies in

- place to identify pupils at risk and refer them to relevant authorities;
- Setting out protocols for ensuring that visiting speakers are suitable and appropriately supervised;
- Working in partnership with other local bodies and following local authority inter-agency procedures;
- Ensuring staff are trained to identify pupils at risk of being drawn into terrorism, challenge extremist ideas and refer children to appropriate authorities where necessary;
- Ensuring the school has internet filters in place to block terrorist and extremist material.

The Promotion of British Values

In November 2014, the Department for Education (DfE) produced non-statutory guidance on how schools should promote British values as part of spiritual, moral, social, and cultural (SMSC) development:

“Schools should promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.” (p5)

At Elmgrove, we actively encourage pupils and staff to respect British values. In accordance with guidance, and through our ethos and our Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) provision we aim to:

- Enable students to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence;
- Enable students to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England;
- Encourage students to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely;
- Enable students to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England;
- Further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling students to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures;
- Encourage respect for other people;
- Encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.

We achieve these aims through our SMSC and PSHE curriculums, links to other areas of the curriculum and via embedded practices such as the school ethos, The Golden Values, our Behaviour Policy, Circle Time, the School Council, assemblies and educational visits.

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 school has a zero tolerance approach to extremist behaviour for all community members. We rely on our ethos of mutual respect for all and our strong PSHE curriculum to steer our work and ensure the pastoral care of our pupils protects them from exposure to negative influences. Furthermore, our pupils are taught to follow The Golden Values, which instills fundamental moral values and incorporates our goal, which is to build mutual respect and understanding, and to promote the use of dialogue, not violence, as a form of conflict resolution.

The Golden Values

- Responsibility
- Kindness
- Respect
- Commitment

AIMS AND PRINCIPLES

The main aims of this policy statement are 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. Pupils are encouraged to adopt The Golden Values. This complements 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 our School Council meetings, PSHE association materials, assemblies, educational visits and through many other practices that are embedded within our PSHE provision and wider curriculum. Principle objectives are to understand the role that our school has in helping prevent radicalisation and supporting our children in developing a world view recognising Britain’s place within it. We celebrate our community and welcome our diversity and teach our children understanding and tolerance.

Governors, teachers, teaching assistants and support staff demonstrate an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school.

RECOGNISING THE SIGNS OF RADICALISATION – ADVICE FOR SCHOOLS.

Government advice outlines some of the reasons why a young person may be drawn toward extremist ideologies, and how this might happen. It provides advice on how to recognise extremism, and lists some of the signs that schools should look out for including:

- Secretive behavior
- Displaying sympathy for extremist causes
- Glorifying violence
- Advocating messages espoused by illegal organisations
- Sudden changes in dress and appearance
- High rates of unexplained absence from school
- Loss of interest in friends or activities not associated with a particular ideology
- Possession of material or symbols associated with an extremist cause.

PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM RADICALISATION – ADVICE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Government guidance sets out the steps that parents and carers can take to protect their children from radicalisation and extremism. For example, it suggests that parents and carers should:

- Know where their child is and who they are with
- Know their child’s friends and their families
- Allow and encourage debate and questioning on local and world events
- Encourage their child to show an interest in the local community and show respect for people from all faiths and backgrounds
- Know what social media and messaging sites their child use
- Ensure their child understand that people who tell them to keep secrets from family or teachers may be trying to harm them

PROCEDURES FOR REFERRALS

It is important for us to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues which affect the region in which we teach. Staff are reminded to refer any concerns through the appropriate channels (currently via the Child Protection Lead). Staff are guided to: Notice, Check and Share information. This policy is strictly adhered to. Should issues arise the school's safeguarding team will make a referral to Channel via the Common Assessment Framework and Harrow Children's Services. This may happen without notice to parents and carers. The Channel Programme is a key element of the government's PREVENT strategy (as detailed above) and aims to stop people being drawn into extremism and radicalisation. Our role, as a school, is outlined in the DCSF document 'Learning together to be safe: A toolkit to help schools contribute to the prevention of violent extremism.', and based upon government guidance as outlined above. Primarily our work will be concerned with PREVENTION. Elmgrove Primary School fully supports the strategy, and strives to take an active part in the PREVENT section of the strategy both at a whole school and at an individual level. PREVENT is a strategy that is also endorsed by Harrow Local Authority.

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, are aware of the process of radicalisation and how this might be identified early on, and how to report concerns.

POLICY REVIEW

This policy should be read alongside the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection, Equal Opportunities, Online-Safety and Anti-bullying and Behaviour policies.

The Anti-Radicalisation policy will be reviewed annually as part of the overall Child Protection and Safeguarding policy review.

APPENDIX

Links to additional resources

The Prevent duty

Departmental advice for schools and childcare providers - June 2015

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/439598/prevent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf

Revised Prevent Duty Guidance – Dec 2023

HM Government

[Prevent duty guidance: Guidance for specified authorities in England and Wales \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/114122/prevent-duty-guidance-guidance-for-specified-authorities-in-england-and-wales.pdf)

Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/380595/SMSC_Guidance_Maintained_Schools.pdf