



## Embleton Vincent Edwards C of E Primary School

Policy	Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation
Policy Number	P001
Ratification Date	October 2020
Review Date	Autumn 2022
Signed	

Chair of  
Governors

This policy should be read with the following policies:

- Child Protection Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Equality Objectives
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Online Safety Policy
- PREVENT Strategy HM Gov
- Keeping Children Safe in Education DfE 2020
- Working Together to Safeguard Children HM Gov 2015

Embleton Primary School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. Every member of staff recognises that safeguarding against radicalisation and extremism is no different to safeguarding against any other vulnerability in today's society. This policy sets out our beliefs, strategies and procedures to protect vulnerable individuals from being radicalised or exposed to extremist views, by identifying who they are and promptly providing them with support.

### Aims and Principles

This policy is intended to provide a framework for dealing with issues relating to vulnerability, radicalisation and exposure to extreme views. We recognise that we are well placed to be able to identify safeguarding issues and this policy clearly sets out how the school will deal with such incidents and identifies how the curriculum and ethos underpins our actions.

The objectives are that:

- All governors, teachers and support staff will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are, and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- All governors, teachers and support staff will know what the school policy is on tackling extremism and radicalisation and will follow the policy guidance swiftly when issues arise.
- All pupils will understand the dangers of radicalisation and exposure to extremist views; building resilience against these and knowing what to do if they experience them.
- All parents/carers 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; 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.

### **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.

There are a number of behaviours which may indicate a child is at risk of being radicalised or exposed to extreme views. These include:

- Spending increasing time in the company of other suspected extremists.
- Changing their style of dress or personal appearance to accord with the group.
- Day-to-day behaviour becoming increasingly centred on an extremist ideology, group or cause.
- Loss of interest in other friends and activities not associated with the extremist ideology, group or cause.
- Possession of materials or symbols associated with an extremist cause.
- Attempts to recruit others to the group/cause.
- Communications with others that suggests identification with a group, cause or ideology.
- Using insulting or derogatory names for another group.
- Increase in prejudice-related incidents committed by that person - these may include:
  - physical or verbal assault
  - provocative behaviour
  - damage to property
  - derogatory name calling
  - possession of prejudice-related materials
  - prejudice-related ridicule or name calling
  - inappropriate forms of address
  - refusal to co-operate
  - attempts to recruit to prejudice-related organisations
  - condoning or supporting violence towards others

### **Procedures for Referrals**

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at Embleton Primary School to date, it is important for us to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues which affect the local area, city and society in which we teach. Staff are reminded to suspend any 'professional disbelief' that instances of radicalisation 'could not happen here' and to be 'professionally inquisitive' where concerns arise, referring any concerns through the appropriate channels.

We believe that it is possible to intervene to protect people who are vulnerable. **Early intervention is vital** and staff must be aware of the established processes for front line professionals to refer concerns about individuals and/or groups. We must have the confidence to challenge, the confidence to intervene and ensure that we have strong safeguarding practices based on the most up-to-date guidance and best practice.

Mrs Threlfall is the Designated Safeguarding Lead (Mrs Popay is the deputy DSL), and will

deal swiftly with any referrals made by staff or with concerns reported by staff. The DSL will discuss the most appropriate course of action on a case-by-case basis and will decide when a referral to external agencies is needed. As with any child protection referral, staff must be made aware that if they do not agree with a decision not to refer, they can make the referral themselves and can access safeguarding information via the safeguarding policy, or the information on the safeguarding board in the staff room.

### **Governors, Leaders and Staff**

The headteacher is the leader for referrals relating to extremism and radicalisation. In the event that she is not available Mrs Popay should be contacted. Additionally, all staff know to use information in the safeguarding policy, or the information on the safeguarding board in the staff room.

Staff are fully briefed about what to do if they are concerned about the possibility of radicalisation relating to a pupil, or if they need to discuss specific children whom they consider to be vulnerable to radicalisation or extremist views.

The headteacher will work in conjunction with the external agencies to decide the best course of action to address concerns which arise.

Prejudicial behaviour can be a factor in radicalisation and extremism. With this in mind, the Behaviour Policy and Equality Objectives are also sources of information for support on how to deal with such behaviours.

### **The role of the curriculum**

Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. As a Church school we focus on the Christian values, which cut across all faiths. Children are encouraged to share their views and recognise that they are entitled to have their own beliefs which should not be used to influence others. 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.

Our PSHE provision is embedded across the curriculum. It is also explored through both collective worship and during dedicated lesson time.

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 help if they are upset or concerned about anything they read or see on the internet.

### **Staff training**

Through INSET opportunities as well as online training courses, we ensure that our staff are fully aware of the risks and vulnerabilities that are linked to radicalisation; are aware of the process of radicalisation and how this might be identified early on; and are aware of how we can provide support as a staff to ensure that our children are resilient and able to resist involvement in radical or extreme activities.

### **Visitors and the use of school premises**

All visitors to school are cleared through the headteacher. Visitors may only visit in accordance with the school's policies and procedures. Children are never left unsupervised with external visitors, except with the prior permission of the headteacher, and only in exceptional circumstances when they are from trusted agencies, such as members of the school health team, or SEND support team.

Upon arriving at the school, all visitors, including contractors, are given access to safeguarding information, including information on who the DSL is.

If any agreement is made to allow non-school groups or organisations to use the premises, appropriate checks will be made before agreeing to the contract. Usage will be monitored and in the event of any behaviour not in-keeping with this policy the school will contact the police and terminate the contract.