Harvington C of E First & Nursery School

Preventing Radicalism and Extremism Policy

Written by R.Enstone
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Governors Responsibility: Safeguarding

Policy Statement

Harvington C of E First and Nursery School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. The Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy sets out our beliefs, strategies and procedures to protect vulnerable individuals from being radicalised or exposed to extremist views.

Aims and Principles

Harvington C of E First and Nursery School Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy is intended to provide a framework for dealing with issues relating to vulnerability, radicalisation and exposure to extreme views.
The objectives are that:

- All governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are 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 preventing extremism and radicalisation and will follow the policy guidance swiftly when issues arise.
- 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 to 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

Two members of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) are trained in Child Protection and Safeguarding and will deal swiftly with any referrals made by staff or with concerns reported by staff. The Headteacher is trained in Prevent strategies.

The Head Teacher (DSL) and SLT 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.

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.

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.

Visitors and Use of the School Premises

If any member of staff wishes to invite a visitor in the school, they should seek agreement of the SLT. Children are NEVER left unsupervised with external visitors, regardless of safeguarding check outcomes.

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