

# Prevent Policy

Slimbridge Primary School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. 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, mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

## Aims

At Slimbridge School we believe all staff need to be 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. The principle objectives are that:

- All Staff and Governors will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- All Staff and Governors will know what the school policy is on anti-radicalisation and extremism 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.

## Definitions

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.

## Referrals

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at Slimbridge Primary School to date, 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 suspend any professional disbelief that instances of radicalisation 'could not happen here' and to refer any concerns through the appropriate channels (Designated Safeguarding Lead).

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

The Headteacher 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.

## **Curriculum**

Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. We are committed to ensuring that our pupils are offered a broad and balanced curriculum that aims to prepare them for life in modern Britain. 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 PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education), Citizenship and SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) provision is embedded across the curriculum, and underpins the ethos of the school. Teaching the school's core values alongside the fundamental British values supports quality teaching and learning, whilst making a positive contribution to the development of a fair, just and civil society. 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.

## **Governing Body**

The Governing Body of our School undertakes appropriate training to ensure that they are clear about their role and the parameters of their responsibilities as Governors, including their statutory safeguarding duties. The Governing Body of our school supports the ethos and values of our school and supports the school in tackling extremism and radicalisation. In line with the provisions set out in the DfE guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2019' the Governing Body will challenge the school's senior management on the delivery of this policy and monitor its effectiveness. Governors will review this policy regularly (every two years) and may amend and adopt it outside of this time frame in accordance with any new legislation or guidance or in response to any quality assurance recommendations pertaining to the delivery of this policy and the overall safeguarding arrangements made.

## **Recruitment**

The arrangements for recruiting all staff, permanent and volunteers, to our school will follow safer recruitment best practice in education settings, including, but not limited to, ensuring that DBS checks are always made at the appropriate level, that references are always received and checked and that we complete and maintain a single central record

of such vetting checks. We will apply safer recruitment best practice principles and sound employment practice in general and in doing so will deny opportunities for inappropriate recruitment or advancement. We will be alert to the possibility that persons may seek to gain positions within our school so as to unduly influence our school's character and ethos. We are aware that such persons seek to limit the opportunities for our pupils thereby rendering them vulnerable to extremist views and radicalisation as a consequence. Therefore, by adhering to safer recruitment best practice techniques and by ensuring that there is an ongoing culture of vigilance within our school and staff team, we will minimise the opportunities for extremist views to prevail.

## **CPD**

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; and are aware of the process of radicalisation and how this might be identified early on.

Links to other policies:

- Child Protection
- Anti-bullying and Hate policy
- Behaviour policy
- Computing and ICT policy

Our school's policy also draws upon the guidance contained in the DfE Guidance "Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2019"; and specifically DCSF Resources "Learning Together to be Safe", "Prevent: Resources Guide", "Tackling Extremism in the UK", and DfE's "Teaching Approaches that help Build Resilience to Extremism among Young People". This policy has been adopted at Slimbridge Primary School.

## **Referrals**

Any colleague with concerns will speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (Mrs Cooke or Mrs McNamara). The concern will be logged and a timeline started. The GCC Prevent Coordinator will be contacted.