



Est. 1919

BRAMBLETYE

Prevent Policy

Name:	Prevent Policy
Applies to:	Whole School including EYFS
Reference no:	Policy 9
Contributors:	Headmaster and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads
Owner:	Designated Safeguarding Lead
Approved by:	Governing Body
Date reviewed:	September 2023
Date approved:	September 2023 (formally ratified by Governing Body on 28 Nov 2023)
Next review:	September 2024

1. Introduction

The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act (July 2015) requires the proprietors of schools to "have due regard, in the exercise of their functions, to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism". This is known as the 'Prevent Duty'.

Brambletye 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 and mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

The Governor with oversight of Prevent is the Nominated Safeguarding Governor.

2. Aims & 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 ensure that we work alongside other professional bodies and agencies to ensure that our pupils are safe from harm. The principal 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.

3. Definitions and Indicators

- Extremism is the vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. This also includes calling for the death of members of the armed forces.
- Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.
- Terrorism is an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people; causes serious damage to property; or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause.

There is no single way of identifying whether a child is likely to be susceptible to an extremist ideology. Background factors combined with specific influences such as family and friends may contribute to a child's vulnerability. Similarly, radicalisation can occur through many different methods (such as social media or the internet) and settings (such as within the home). However, it is possible to protect vulnerable people from extremist ideology and intervene to prevent those at risk of radicalisation being radicalised.

As with other safeguarding risks, staff should be alert to changes in children's behaviour, which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Staff should use their judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately which may include the designated safeguarding lead (or deputy) making a Prevent referral.

NSPCC Protecting children from radicalisation - Spotting the signs of radicalisation

Radicalisation can be really difficult to spot. Signs that may indicate a child is being radicalised include:

- isolating themselves from family and friends
- talking as if from a scripted speech
- unwillingness or inability to discuss their views
- a sudden disrespectful attitude towards others
- increased levels of anger
- increased secretiveness, especially around internet use.

4. Active Promotion of Fundamental British Values

Active promotion of fundamental British values can be seen in the following areas of the school:

- The PSHEE scheme of work
- In whole school assemblies and chapel services
- Schemes of work in relevant curriculum subjects

- The work of the school council and food committee

Discriminatory or extremist opinions or behaviours must be challenged as a matter of routine, and there must be zero tolerance of abusive behaviours.

5. E Safety

The filtering levels on all pupil devices managed by Brambletye are described in detail in the IT: E-Safety, Digital Media, Social Media & Acceptable Use Policy.

6. Procedures for Referrals

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at Brambletye 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 (currently via the Designated Safeguarding Lead).

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.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead and the Headmaster will deal swiftly with any referrals made by staff or with concerns reported by staff. The Headmaster 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.

<https://schools.westsussex.gov.uk/Services/3601>

Channel

Channel is a voluntary, confidential support programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. Prevent referrals may be passed to a multi-agency Channel panel, which will discuss the individual referred to determine whether they are vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism and consider the appropriate support required.

A representative from the school or college may be asked to attend the Channel panel to help with this assessment. An individual's engagement with the programme is entirely voluntary at all stages. The designated safeguarding lead should consider if it would be appropriate to share any information with the new school or college in advance of a child leaving. For example, information that would allow the new school or college to continue supporting victims of abuse or those who are currently receiving support through the 'Channel' programme, and have that support in place for when the child arrives.

7. Visitors to the School

In order to safeguard pupils from visitors to the School who may have extreme or radical views the School will:

- Ensure all visitors to the School are carefully vetted and take immediate action if any individual or group is perceived to be attempting to influence members of the School community, either physically or electronically.
- “Open source” check any organisations which wish to have relationships with the School, particularly those in the voluntary sector.

8. The Role of the 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 PSHEE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education), Citizenship and SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) provision is embedded across the curriculum, and underpins the ethos of the school. Teaching the schools’ 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.

9. The Role of the Governing Body

The Governing Body of our School will undertake 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 will support the ethos and values of our school and will support the school in tackling extremism and radicalisation. In line with the provisions set out in the DfE guidance ‘Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2023’ the governing body will challenge the school’s senior management team 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.

10. Recruitment

The arrangements for recruiting all staff, permanent and volunteers, to our school will follow Redbridge’s guidance for 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.

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

Links to other policies:

- Child Protection (Safeguarding) Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Good Behaviour, Discipline, Reward and Sanctions Policy

Our school's Policy also draws upon the guidance contained in the West Sussex Child Protection Procedures and DfE Guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2023'; 'Learning Together to be Safe'; 'Prevent: Resources Guide', 'Tackling Extremism in the UK'; 'Teaching Approaches that help Build Resilience to Extremism among Young People'.

12. Procedures for Referral

Any colleague with concerns will speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead. The concern will be logged and a timeline started.

Prevent Duty Guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>

Channel Guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/channel-guidance>