Policy preventing Extremism and Radicalisation.

Statement of Intent

Forefield Junior School School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. As a school we recognise that safeguarding against extremism and radicalisation is no different from safeguarding against any other vulnerability.

At Forefield Junior School all staff and Governors 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, the Governors have taken account of the guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) who has called for all public bodies to make explicit their preventative measures to minimise the threat of extremism in their setting.

Definition 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 Governing Body has a zero tolerance approach to extremist behaviour for all community members. We rely on our British values to steer our work and ensure that the pastoral care of our pupils protects them from exposure to negative influences. Furthermore, our positive promotion of both our Code of Conduct and the upholding of our British Value Policy provide our pupils with the skills to reject violence in all its forms.

Aims and Principles

The main aims of this policy statement are to ensure that staff and Governors 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 principle objectives are that:

- Pupils are encouraged to adopt and live out 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 SEAL (Social and emotional aspects of learning), assemblies and through the elected School Council members.
- Pupils are taught how to keep themselves safe, in school, in the community and when using the internet.
- Pupils engage in a broad, balanced curriculum that helps them appreciate and value their neighbours and friends who may not share their faith background.
- Pupil's wellbeing, confidence and resilience are promoted through our well-planned curriculum and extensive out of hours learning opportunities.
- Pupils are supported in making good choices so they understand the impact and consequences of their actions on others.
- Governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff demonstrate an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school.

E-Safety

Our school will prevent the on-line manifestation of extremism and radicalisation through its robust promotion of its e-safety mechanisms:

- The curriculum network is hard-wired and has two layers of firewalls. The first layer is our own Smoothwall system. This is controlled and monitored in school, filtering and logging all internet activity. The second layer is operated by the L.E.A. This blocks specific core content, and not only filters but logs all on-line activity.
- The administrative network has one firewall provided by Arvato Services which blocks specific core content. Additionally all activity is filtered and logged by Arvato Services.

Visitors to Forefield Junior School

Our school will assess the suitability and effectiveness of input from external agencies or individuals to ensure that:

- Any messages communicated to students are consistent with the ethos of the school and do not marginalise any communities, groups or individuals.
- Any messages communicated do not seek to glorify criminal activity or violent extremism or seek to radicalise students through extreme or narrow views of faith, religion or culture or other ideologies.
- Visitors will not be allowed to communicate to groups of pupils without the presence of a member of Forefield staff being present.

Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Responsibilities

As part of wider safeguarding responsibilities school staff will be alert to and report to the Child Protection Office:

- Disclosures by students of their exposure to the extremist actions, views or materials of others outside of school, such as in their homes or community groups, especially where students have not actively sought these out.
- Graffiti, symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images.
- Students attempting to access extremist material online.
- Parental reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance with regards to extremism and/or radicalization.
- Students voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives.
- Use of extremist or 'hate' terms to exclude others or incite violence. Intolerance of difference, whether secular or religious or, in line with our equalities policy, views based on, but not exclusive to, gender, disability, homophobia, race, colour or culture.
- Attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others.
- Anti-British views.

Conclusion

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:

• **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

Primarily our work will be concerned with **PREVENTION** and is outlined more specifically in the DCSF document 'Learning together to be safe: A toolkit to help schools contribute to the prevention of violent extremism.' (http://dera.ioe.ac.uk/8396/1/DCSF-Learning%20Together_bkmk.pdf)

This policy should be read alongside the school's Safeguarding, Equal Opportunities, E-Safety and Anti-bullying policies and the Governments PREVENT strategy. (https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/97976/prevent-strategy-review.pdf)

Ron Naylor

Headteacher

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