

ANTI – RADICALISATION STATEMENT

At the Heathland Whitefriars Federation our Core Values, underpin every aspect of school life.



Article 41: Your right to respect for better national standards

THE AIMS OF THE SCHOOL:

- To encourage and promote an appreciation of all faiths, denominations and religions.
- To develop good relationships among all those involved in the school and the wider community. To provide equality of opportunity to all regardless of culture, religion, language, ethnic background or race.
- To develop each individual to their full potential academically linking their learning to the framework of the National Curriculum.
- To help children recognise and develop their own talents and to encourage them to become responsible for themselves and others.
- These aims are revisited each year to ensure their relevance, statement on equality of opportunity and values are understood by all.



Article 36: You have the right to be free from other forms of exploitation

The Heathland Whitefriars Federation 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.

Within the Heathland Whitefriars Federation 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. These are included in the Schools Values which are shared, understood and supported by parents, directors, staff and all children.

- 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.

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.



Article 17: You have the right to access to information from mass media

The Directors of the Federation have a zero tolerance approach to extremist behaviour for all community members. We rely on our strong values to steer our work and ensure the pastoral care of our pupils protects them from exposure to negative influences and potentially harmful ideas.

Furthermore, the positive promotion of Rights through our work in achieving the UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools Award equips our pupils with the skills to reject violence and in tolerance in all its forms.

AIMS AND PRINCIPLES

The main aims of this policy statement are to ensure that staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalization and extremism; 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. In addition, we want to equip our staff in supporting all of the children in being reflective learners, able to challenge difficult ideas for themselves.



Article 15: You have the right to freedom of association

The principle objectives are that:

- Pupils are encouraged to adopt and live out our Core Values. These complement 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 our PSHE curriculum, assemblies and through the elected School Council members. To this end Pupil Voice is heard and influences the school democratically.
- Pupils are taught how to keep themselves safe, in school, in their neighbourhood and when using the internet.
- Pupils actively participate and contribute to local community events and outreach so that they appreciate and value their neighbours and friends who may not share their traditions, spirituality and faith.
- Pupil’s wellbeing, confidence and resilience is promoted and taught through our planned curriculum and enrichment.
- Pupils are actively supported in making good choices from a very young age, so they understand the impact and consequences of their actions on others and are able to question and positively challenge the behaviour of others.

Directors, 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. The school also offers training for parents that assists them in spotting vulnerabilities in children, supports them increasing a children’s self – esteem and confidence, equipping them to challenge extreme ideologies.

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 Our role, as a school, 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.' 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.' This policy should be read alongside the school's Safeguarding, Equal Opportunities, E-Safety and Anti-bullying policies.

PROCEDURES FOR REFERRALS

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred within the Federation 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 and challenge any professional disbelief that instances of radicalisation 'could not happen here' and to refer any concerns through the appropriate channels (currently via the Child Protection/ Safeguarding Co-ordinator). This policy is strictly adhered to should issues arise.

THE ROLE OF THE CURRICULUM

Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. Children are encouraged to express themselves through discussions, debates and consultations. The R.E, PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education), Citizenship and SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) provision is embedded across the curriculum through detailed planning, integration in a range of topics, trips, visits and visitors and discreetly taught sessions and underpins the ethos of the school. Children learn about other faiths and traditions, they visit places of worship and are taught about how to stay safe when using the Internet.

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.

POLICY REVIEW

The Anti-Radicalisation policy statement will be reviewed annually as part of the overall Child Protection and Safeguarding policy review.

Review date February 2016