

# PREVENTING RADICALISATION POLICY

## BOTH SCHOOLS INCLUDING EYFS AND BOARDING

<b>Committee normally reviewing:</b>	Governance Committee
<b>Date last formally approved:</b>	Autumn Term 2021
<b>Date policy became effective:</b>	September 2015

<b>Period of Review:</b>	Three yearly
<b>Next Review Date:</b>	Autumn Term 2024

<b>Person responsible for implementation and monitoring:</b>	Designated Safeguarding Leads
<p>Other relevant policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Safer Recruitment Policy</li> <li>● Behaviour Policy (Senior)</li> <li>● Anti-Bullying Policy (Senior)</li> <li>● Pastoral Care Plan (Prep)</li> <li>● Positive Handling (Restraining) Policy</li> <li>● Permanent Exclusions (Expulsion) Policy</li> <li>● Crisis Management Plan</li> <li>● Online Safety Policy</li> <li>● Equal Opportunities Policy</li> <li>● Curriculum Policy</li> <li>● Learning and Teaching Policy</li> <li>●</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Health and Safety Policy</li> <li>● Promoting the Welfare of Boarders Policy</li> <li>● Health Education Policy PSHE Policies and Schemes of Work</li> <li>● RSE Policy</li> <li>● Tutoring Policy (Senior)</li> <li>● Social Media Policy</li> <li>● CIAG Policy</li> <li>● Interviewing Pupils Policy (Senior)</li> <li>● Parent and Guardians Relationship Policy</li> <li>● Round Square Exchange Policy (Senior)</li> </ul>

The following Policy encompasses the Aims and Ethos of the Preparatory School and the Senior School

### [Aims and Ethos](#)

#### **SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT**

*Felsted is committed to maintaining a safe and secure environment for all pupils and a 'culture of vigilance' to safeguard and protect all in its care, and to all aspects of its 'Safeguarding (Child Protection and Staff Behaviour) Policy'.*

#### **EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES STATEMENT**

*The aims of the School and the principles of excellent pastoral care will be applied to all children irrespective of their race, sex, disability, religion or belief, sexual orientation, gender reassignment or pregnancy or maternity; equally these characteristics will be recognised and respected, and the School will aim to provide a positive culture of tolerance, equality and mutual respect.*

## **Background**

This 'Preventing Radicalisation Policy' is part of our commitment to keeping children safe. Schools have a duty to promote community cohesion. Over the last few years, global events have led to a growth of extremist viewpoints, including advocacy of violent extremism.

Schools have an important part to play in both educating children and young people about extremism and recognising when pupils start to become radicalised. In March 2015, new statutory duties were placed on schools by the Counter Terrorism and Security Act (2015) which means they must work to prevent children being drawn into extremism.

Safeguarding children from all risks of harm is an important part of a school's work and protecting them from extremism is one aspect of that.

## **Ethos**

At Felsted we ensure that through our school vision, values, rules, diverse curriculum and teaching we promote tolerance and respect for all cultures, faiths and lifestyles. The governing body also ensures that this ethos is reflected and implemented effectively in school policy and practice and that there are effective risk assessments in place to safeguard and promote students' welfare.

We have a duty to prepare our children for life in modern Britain and to keep them safe.

Pupils who attend our school have the right to learn in safety. We do not tolerate bullying of any kind and will challenge derogatory language and behaviour towards others.

## **Statutory Duties**

The duty to prevent children and young people being radicalised is set out in the following documents.

- Counter Terrorism and Security Act
- Keeping Children Safe in Education
- Prevent Duty Guidance
- Working Together to Safeguard Children

## **Non-statutory Guidance**

- Improving the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of pupils: supplementary information

## **Definitions**

**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.

It is important to recognise that radicalisation can take many forms:

- religious fundamentalism (found within every denomination/religion)
- far right-wing organisations( extreme nationalism, racist, xenophobic, anti-semitic)
- misogynistic groups, e.g. Incels ("Involuntary Celibates")

**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

**British Values** are democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

### **Role of the Governing Body**

It is the role of the governing body to ensure that the school meets its statutory duties with regard to preventing radicalisation.

The governing body has two nominated persons (the governors for safeguarding) who will liaise with the Heads, Designated Safeguarding Leads and other staff about issues to do with protecting children from radicalisation.

### **Role of the Heads of Both Schools**

It is the role of the Head to:

- ensure that the school and its staff respond to preventing radicalisation on a day-to-day basis,
- ensure that the school's curriculum addresses the issues involved in radicalisation
- ensure that staff conduct is consistent with preventing radicalisation

### **Role of Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)**

It is the role of the DSL to:

- ensure that staff understand the issues of radicalisation, are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns
- receive and respond to safeguarding concerns about children and young people who may be vulnerable to the risk of radicalisation or are showing signs of radicalisation
- make referrals to appropriate agencies with regard to concerns about radicalisation
- liaise with partners, including the local authority and the police
- report to the governing body on these matters

### **Role of staff**

It is the role of staff to understand the issues of radicalisation, are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns.

### **Curriculum**

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. We encourage our pupils to be inquisitive learners who are open to new experiences and are tolerant of others.

Tolerance and respect for the views of others are central to all aspects of the Felsted School community, within the classroom, during co-curricular activities in the houses and in social situations as outlined in the school ethos. British values such as fair play, a belief in democracy and supporting those in need underpin the structure of school life with pupils encouraged to voice their opinions through school and house councils. British values are directly addressed in chapel services, assemblies, tutorials, the PSHE curriculum and in subjects such as English, Drama, RS, History, Government and Politics, Geography and in activities such as team sports, MUN and hosting and visiting other schools ( for example sports tours). There is a rich history at Felsted of raising money for less fortunate societies and visiting and individually contributing in places such as Mumbai, Malawi, Kenya and Uganda, as well as London Docklands in this country.

These values support the development of the whole child as a reflective learner within a calm, caring, happy and purposeful atmosphere. 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.

### **Internet Safety**

The internet provides children and young people with access to a wide-range of content, some of which is harmful. Extremists use the internet, including social media, to share their messages. The filtering systems used in our school block inappropriate content, including extremist content.

We educate our pupils on the safe use of social media. The School's monitoring and filtering system will alert the DSLs if sites are found to be dangerous.

If staff, pupils or visitors find any online content of concern, they must report it to the DSL or a senior member of staff.

The School's Online Safety and ICT Acceptable Use Policy, Safeguarding (Child Protection and Staff Behaviour) Policy and the Social Media Policy, sets out the School's approach to online safety, and also includes detail on the use of mobile technology in school, accessing 3G, 4G and 5G technology on school premises and the School's IT arrangements to ensure that children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet through the School's systems.

All pupils and all staff are required to sign the ICT acceptable use agreement to confirm they have understood what is acceptable.

Pupils and staff know how to report internet content that is inappropriate or of concern.

### **Staff Training**

Staff will be given training to help them understand the issues of radicalisation, are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns. This information also forms part of induction safeguarding training. Staff are updated as necessary in safeguarding briefings.

### **Safer Recruitment**

We ensure that the staff we appoint to the school are suitable, our recruitment procedures are rigorous and we follow the statutory guidance published in *Keeping Children Safe in Education*. Vetting and barring checks are undertaken on relevant people, including governors and volunteers.

### **Visitors**

Visitors are provided with safeguarding information and a copy of the Safeguarding (Child Protection and Staff Behaviour) Policy is published on the website and can be accessed from the School reception for visitors to refer to if they wish. The telephone number of the DSL is printed on the back of the visitors badge so that, if they are concerned about the welfare of any pupil, they can report this directly.

Visiting speakers are sent safeguarding information and visiting speaker guidelines in advance of their visit, informing them about our preventing extremism policy. We undertake due diligence to ensure that visiting speakers are appropriate and relevant checks are undertaken. Speakers will be supervised at all times and will not be allowed to speak to children without a member of staff being present.

Staff must not invite speakers into school without first obtaining permission from the Head (Prep) or the Senior Deputy Head (Senior).

### **'No platform for extremists'**

The school is vigilant to the possibility that out-of-hours hire of the school premises may be requested by people wishing to run an extremist event. The school does not accept bookings from individuals or organisations that are extremist (see definition of extremism above) in their views.

## Signs of vulnerability

There are no known definitive indicators that a young person is vulnerable to radicalisation, but there are number of signs that together increase the risk. Signs of vulnerability include:

- underachievement
- being in possession of extremist literature
- poverty
- social exclusion
- traumatic events
- global or national events
- religious conversion
- change in behaviour
- extremist influences
- conflict with family over lifestyle
- confused identify
- victim or witness to race or hate crimes
- rejection by peers, family, social groups or faith

## Recognising Extremism

Early indicators of radicalisation or extremism may include:

- showing sympathy for extremist causes
- glorifying violence, especially to other faiths or cultures
- making remarks or comments about being at extremist events or rallies outside school
- evidence of possessing illegal or extremist literature
- advocating messages similar to illegal organisations or other extremist groups
- out of character changes in dress, behaviour and peer relationships (but there are also very powerful narratives, programmes and networks that young people can come across online so involvement with particular groups may not be apparent.)
- secretive behaviour
- online searches or sharing extremist messages or social profiles
- intolerance of difference, including faith, culture, gender, race or sexuality
- graffiti, art work or writing that displays extremist themes
- attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others
- verbalising anti-Western or anti-British views
- advocating violence towards others

## Risk factors

- Being involved in bullying, either as a perpetrator or victim
- Exposed to or being involved in crime and anti-social behaviour
- Family tensions
- Exposed to or involved in race or hate crime
- Lack of self-esteem or identity
- Personal or political grievances
- Feelings of grievance and injustice
- Feeling under threat
- A need for identity, meaning and belonging
- A desire for status
- A desire for excitement and adventure
- A need to dominate and control others
- A desire for political or moral change
- Opportunistic involvement
- Family or friends involved in extremism
- Mental health issues

## **Referral Process**

Staff and visitors to the school must refer all concerns about children and young people who show signs of vulnerability or radicalisation to the DSL using the usual methods for reporting other safeguarding concerns.

When there are significant concerns about a pupil, the DSL, in liaison with the Head, will make a referral to the appropriate body, such as social care or PREVENT.