



Tackling Extremism & Radicalisation Policy

Rationale

Bromley Heath Junior School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. Every member of staff recognises that safeguarding against radicalisation and extremism is no different to safeguarding against any other vulnerability in today's society. The Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation Policy sets out our beliefs, strategies and procedures to protect vulnerable individuals from being radicalised or exposed to extremist views, by identifying who they are and promptly providing them with support.

The following national guidelines should be read in conjunction with our safeguarding policy when working with this policy;

- PREVENT Strategy HM Government
- Keeping Children Safe in Education DfE 2016
- Working Together to Safeguard Children HM Government 2015.

Aims and Principles

This policy is intended to provide a framework for dealing with issues relating to vulnerability, radicalisation and exposure to extreme views. We recognise that we are well placed to be able to identify safeguarding issues and this policy clearly sets out how the school will deal with such incidents and identifies how the curriculum and ethos underpins our actions.

The objectives are that:

- All governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism is and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- All governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff will know what the school policy is on tackling extremism and radicalisation and will follow the policy guidance swiftly when issues arise.
- All pupils will understand the dangers of radicalisation and exposure to extremist views; building resilience against these and knowing what to do if they experience them.
- All parents/carers 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.

The main aims of this policy are to ensure that staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalisation; that they overcome professional disbelief that such issues will not happen and that we work alongside other professional bodies and agencies to ensure that our pupils are safe from harm.

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.

There are a number of behaviours which may indicate a child is at risk of being radicalised or exposed to extreme views. These include:

- Spending increasing time in the company of other suspected extremists.
- Changing their style of dress or personal appearance to accord with the group.
- Day-to-day behaviour becoming increasingly centred on an extremist ideology, group or cause.
- Loss of interest in other friends and activities not associated with the extremist ideology, group or cause.
- Possession of materials or symbols associated with an extremist cause.
- Attempts to recruit others to the group/cause.
- Communications with others that suggests identification with a group, cause or ideology.
- Using insulting to derogatory names for another group.
- Increase in prejudice-related incidents committed by that person – these may include:
 1. physical or verbal assault or provocative behaviour
 2. damage to property or derogatory name calling
 3. possession of prejudice-related materials
 4. prejudice related ridicule or name calling
 5. inappropriate forms of address or refusal to co-operate to attempts to recruit to prejudice-related organisations condoning or supporting violence towards others.

Procedures for Referrals

Although fortunately to date there have not been any incidents involving radicalisation at Bromley Heath Junior School, it is important for us to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues which affect the local area, city and society in which we teach. Staff are reminded to suspend any 'professional disbelief' that instances of radicalisation 'could not happen here' and to be 'professionally inquisitive' where concerns arise, referring any concerns through the appropriate channels.

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 practise.

The Headteacher is the designated Child Protection lead and all other members of SLT and staff have received the appropriate level of Safeguarding and child protection training.

Whether there are any concerns, the Headteacher and SLT 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.

Staff Training

Through training opportunities in school, we will ensure that our staff are fully aware of the threats, risks and vulnerabilities that are linked to radicalisation; how to identify the signs and are aware of how we can provide support as a school to ensure that our children are resilient and able to resist involvement in radical or extreme activities.

Signed

Chair of Governors

Signed

Headteacher

Date: January 2018

Review Date: January 2020

Lead Responsibility: Headteacher
Governing Body Responsibility: FGB

Links to
FGM policy
Safeguarding policy