

Preventing Radicalisation and Extremism (Prevent) Policy



King Henry VIII 3-19 School Ysgol 3-19 Brenin Harri'r VIII

We believe in the limitless capacity for everyone to achieve great things.

Effective from: September 2023

Approved by Governors: July 2023

Reviewed by Governors: July 2024, July 2025, May 2026

Next Review Due: May 2027

1. Introduction

King Henry VIII 3-19 School is committed to providing a secure environment for pupils, where they feel safe and are kept safe. All adults at King Henry VIII 3-19 School recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, irrespective of the role they undertake or whether their role has direct contact or responsibility for pupils or not.

In adhering to this policy, and the procedures therein, staff and visitors will contribute to King Henry VIII 3-19 School's delivery of the outcomes to all pupils, as set out in s10 (2) of the Children Act 2004. This Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Safeguarding Policy is one element within our overall school arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of all pupils in line with our statutory duties set out at s175 of the Education Act 2002.

2. Objectives

- To promote mutual respect, tolerance and understanding of those of a different faith, belief, race or sexuality;
- To use good teaching to eradicate the myths that can lead some young people to becoming alienated;
- To challenge any prejudice, discrimination or extremist view displayed by any member of the school community;
- To raise concerns of extremism or radicalisation displayed by any member of the school community and act on it promptly.

3. School Ethos and Practice

When operating this policy, King Henry VIII 3-19 School uses the following accepted Governmental definition of extremism which is:

'Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs; and/or calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas'.

There is no place for extremist views of any kind in our school, whether from internal sources – pupils, staff or governors, or external sources – school community, external agencies or individuals. Our pupils see our school as a safe place where they can explore controversial issues safely and where our teachers encourage and facilitate this – we have a duty to ensure this happens.

As a school we recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes for pupils and so should be addressed as a safeguarding concern, as set out in this policy. We also recognise that if we fail to challenge extremist views we are failing to protect our pupils.

Extremists of all persuasions aim to develop destructive relationships between different communities by promoting division, fear and mistrust of others based on ignorance or prejudice and thereby limiting the life chances of young people. Education is a powerful weapon against this; equipping pupils with the knowledge, skills and critical thinking, to challenge and debate in an informed way. Therefore, at King Henry VIII 3-19 School we will provide a broad and balanced curriculum, delivered by skilled professionals, so that our pupils are enriched, understand and become tolerant of difference and diversity and also to ensure that they thrive, feel valued and not marginalised. Furthermore, at King Henry VIII 3-19 School we are aware that pupils can be exposed to extremist influences or prejudiced views from an early age which emanate from a variety of sources and media, including via the internet, and at times pupils may themselves reflect or display views that may be discriminatory, prejudiced or extremist, including using derogatory language.

Any prejudice, discrimination or extremist views, including derogatory language displayed by pupils or staff will always be challenged, and where appropriate dealt with promptly. Where misconduct by a teacher is proven, the matter will be referred to the EWC via the Designated Safeguarding Person and Headteacher.

As part of a wider safeguarding responsibilities school staff will be alert to:

- Disclosures by pupils 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 pupils have not actively sought these out;
- Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images;
- Pupils accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites;
- Parental reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance;
- Partner schools, local authority services, police reports of issues affecting pupils in other schools or settings;
- Pupils 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 Equality 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-Western or Anti-British views.

Our school will closely follow any locally agreed procedure as set out by the Local Authority and LSCB.

4. Teaching Approaches

We will strive to eradicate the myths and assumptions that can lead to some young people becoming alienated and disempowered, especially where the narrow approaches children may experience elsewhere may make it harder for them to challenge or question these radical influences. In our school this will be achieved by good teaching, primarily via PSE, and by adopting the methods suggested by the Welsh Government.

We will ensure that all of our teaching approaches help our pupils build resilience to extremism and give pupils a positive sense of identity through the development of critical thinking skills. We will ensure that all of our staff are equipped to recognise extremism and are skilled and confident enough to challenge it.

We will be flexible enough to adapt our teaching approaches, as appropriate, so as to address specific issues and become even more relevant to the current issues of extremism and radicalisation.

King Henry VIII 3-19 School is committed to:

- Making a connection with pupils through good teaching and a pupil centred approach;
- Facilitating a 'safe space' for dialogue, and
- Equipping our pupils with the appropriate skills, knowledge, understanding and awareness for resilience.

Therefore, this approach will be embedded within the ethos of our school so that pupils know and understand what safe and acceptable behaviour is in the context of extremism and radicalisation.

Our goal is to build mutual respect and understanding and to promote the use of dialogue, not violence, as a form of conflict resolution. We will achieve this by using a curriculum that includes:

- Open discussion and debate;
- Work on anti-violence and a restorative approach addressed throughout curriculum and the Behaviour and Relationships Policy;
- Focussed educational programmes.

We will also work with local partners, families and communities in our efforts to ensure our school understands and embraces our local context and values in challenging extremist views and to assist in the broadening of our pupils' experiences and horizons. We will help support pupils who may be vulnerable to such influences as part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities and where we believe a pupil is being directly affected by extremist materials or influences, we will ensure that the pupil is offered mentoring. Additionally, in such

instances, our school will seek external support from the Local Authority and/or local partnership structures working to prevent extremism.

At King Henry VIII 3-19 School we will promote the values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs. We will teach and encourage pupils to respect one another and to respect and tolerate difference, especially those of a different faith or no faith. It is indeed our most fundamental responsibility to keep our pupils safe and prepare them for life in modern multi-cultural Britain and globally.

5. Use of External Agencies and Speakers

At King Henry VIII 3-19 School we encourage the use of external agencies or speakers to enrich the experiences of our pupils, however, we will positively vet those external agencies, individuals, or speakers who we engage to provide such learning opportunities or experiences for our pupils.

These external agencies will be vetted to ensure that we do not unwittingly use agencies that contradict each other with their messages or that are inconsistent with, or are in complete opposition to, the school's values and ethos. We must be aware that in some instances the work of external agencies may not directly be connected with the rest of the school curriculum so we need to ensure that this work is of benefit to pupils.

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

- Any messages communicated to pupils are consistent with the ethos of the school and do not marginalise any communities, groups or individuals;
- Any messages do not seek to glorify criminal activity or violent extremism or seek to radicalise pupils through extreme or narrow views of faith, religion or culture or other ideologies;
- Activities are properly embedded in the curriculum and clearly mapped to schemes of work to avoid contradictory messages or duplication;
- Activities are matched to the needs of pupils;
- Activities are carefully evaluated by schools to ensure that they are effective.

We recognise, however, that the ethos of our school is to encourage pupils to understand opposing views and ideologies, appropriate to their age, understanding and abilities, and to be able to actively engage with them in informed debate, and we may use external agencies or speakers to facilitate and support this. Therefore, by delivering a broad and balanced curriculum and enrichment programme augmented by the use of external sources where appropriate, we will strive to ensure our pupils recognise risk and build resilience to manage any such risk themselves where appropriate to their age and ability, but also to help pupils develop the critical thinking skills needed to engage in informed debate.

6. Whistleblowing

Where there are concerns of extremism or radicalisation, pupils, staff and Governors will be encouraged to make use of our internal systems to 'whistle blow' or raise any issue in confidence.

They must inform the Headteacher straight away (or if it related to the Headteacher, inform the Chair of Governors and the Designated Safeguarding Person).

7. Safeguarding

Please refer to our Safeguarding Policy for the full procedural framework on our Safeguarding and Child Protection duties.

Staff at King Henry VIII 3-19 School will be alerted to the fact that whilst extremism and radicalisation is broadly a safeguarding issue, there may be some instances where a child (or children) may be at direct risk of harm or

neglect. For example, this could be due to a child displaying risky behaviours in terms of the activities they are involved in, or the groups they are associated with, or staff may be aware of information about a child's family that may equally place a child at risk of harm (these examples are for illustration and are not definitive or exhaustive).

Therefore, all adults working in King Henry VIII 3-19 School (including visiting staff, volunteers, contractors and pupils on placement) are required to report instances where they believe a child may be at risk of harm or neglect to the Designated Safeguarding Person.

The Designated Safeguarding Person is: Mrs J Davies

The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Persons (Secondary Site) are: Mrs K Corken and Miss S Watkins

8. 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.