



British Values & Prevention of Radicalisation and Extremism Policy

This is a Trust Policy – details specific to individual academies and their procedures are added by the Academy in the *Appendix*. (For a copy of the policy for a specific academy which includes the *Appendix* – see individual academy websites).

Date	Revision & Amendment Details	By Whom
November 2020	Approved	Education Committee
January 2024	Reviewed and Approved	Education Committee

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1. Background

This policy is part of Peterborough Diocese Education Trust's (the Trust) commitment to keeping children safe. Since the 'Education and Inspections Act 2006', schools / academies 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.

Trusts and the academies within them have an important part to play in both educating pupils about extremism and recognising when they start to become radicalised. In March 2015, statutory duties were placed on schools / academies as part of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act (2015) which means schools / academies must work to prevent children being drawn into extremism.

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

The Trust is committed to providing a secure environment for pupils, where pupils feel safe and are kept safe. All adults within the Trust recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

irrespective of the role they undertake or whether their role has direct contact or responsibility for children or not. It is the individual responsibility of every member of staff to read, understand and implement this policy, together with their responsibilities as outlined in the following Trust / academy policies / documents:

- *Whistleblowing Policy*
- *Staff Code of Conduct*
- *Safeguarding Policy*
- Part 1 and Annex A of the latest edition of “Keeping Children Safe in Education”
- *Behaviour Policy*; and • *Acceptable Use Policy*.

2. Ethos

In our Trust, we ensure that through our distinctive Christian vision, our values, and through a broad, balanced and diverse curriculum and highly effective teaching, we promote tolerance and respect for all cultures, faiths and lifestyles. The Academy Governance Committees (AGCs) at our academies help ensure that this ethos is reflected and implemented effectively in the academy’s policy and practice and that there are effective risk assessments in place to safeguard and promote pupils’ welfare.

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

Pupils who attend our academies have the right to learn in safety. We do not tolerate bullying of any kind and will challenge derogatory language and behaviour towards others – see [Behaviour Policy](#).

There is no place for extremist views of any kind in our Trust whether from internal sources (pupils, staff, Directors or governors) or external sources (academy community, external agencies or individuals). Our pupils see our academies as safe places where they can explore all issues safely and where our teachers encourage and facilitate this; we have a duty to ensure this happens. We recognise that if we fail to challenge extremist views we are failing to protect our pupils.

In our academies, we will actively challenge pupils, staff or parents / carers expressing opinions contrary to Fundamental/British Values, including those expressing ‘extremist’ views.

3. Statutory Duties

The duty to prevent pupils being radicalised is set out in the following documents.

- [Counter Terrorism and Security Act \(2015\)](#)
- The latest edition of [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#)
- [Prevent Duty Guidance \(2023\)](#)
- [Working Together to Safeguard Children \(2023\)](#)

4. Related Policies

- *Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)*
- *Behaviour Policy*
- *Collective Worship Policy*
- *Equality Information and Objectives*
- *Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) Policy*
- *RE Policy*
- *Relationships, Sex and Health Education Policy*

- *Safeguarding Policy*
- *Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural (SMSC) Policy*
- *Staff Code of Conduct*
- *Health & Safety Policy*
- *Whistleblowing Policy*

5. Assessing the Academy Level of Risk

Each academy within the Trust has assessed their level of risk of radicalisation and extremism and the academy specific information in this respect can be found in the Appendix attached to this Policy (the *Appendix*).

6. Definitions

Extremism is defined as the holding of extreme political or religious views. In the 2015 Counter Extremism Strategy, it is defined as “*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. We also include in our definition of extremism, calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas*”.

The Prevent Duty, (statutory guidance issued under the Counter Terrorism and Security Act) places a duty on certain bodies (“specified authorities” listed in Schedule 6 to the Act), in the exercise of their functions, to have “*due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism*”.

The Trust has a **zero tolerance** approach to extremist behaviour for all academy community members. We rely on our strong Christian values to steer our work and ensure the pastoral care of our pupils protects them from exposure to negative influences.

Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

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

In each of our academies, British / Fundamental Values are reinforced regularly. For details of how in specific academies – **see the Appendix**.

7. Roles and Responsibilities

Role of the Academy Governance Committee (AGC)

It is the role of the AGC to help ensure that the academy meets its statutory duties with regard to preventing radicalisation and the AGC will liaise with the Headteacher and other staff about issues to do with protecting pupils from radicalisation.

Role of the Headteacher

It is the role of the Headteacher to:

- Ensure that staff have appropriate training related to preventing radicalisation and extremism
- Ensure that the academy and its staff respond to preventing radicalisation and extremism on a day-to-day basis

consultations. The RE, RSHE, PSHE, Citizenship, Online-Safety and SMSC provision is embedded across the curriculum, and underpins the ethos of our academies. Pupils learn about all major faiths and some key worldviews and visit places of worship wherever possible. They are also taught about how to stay safe when using the internet in all areas of the curriculum.

Whilst our curriculum will enable pupils to become well-rounded individuals, we recognise the importance of resilience in preventing pupils being drawn into extremist ways of thinking. 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 all strive to eradicate the myths and assumptions that can lead to some young people becoming alienated and disempowered, especially where the narrow approaches pupils may experience elsewhere may make it harder for them to challenge or question these radical influences.

The way in which the individual academy's curriculum prevents pupils from becoming radicalised is set out in **the Appendix**.

These values support the development of the whole pupil as a reflective learner within a calm, caring, happy and purposeful atmosphere. Teaching the academy's core values alongside the British / Fundamental Values supports quality teaching and learning, whilst making a positive contribution to the development of a fair, just and civil society.

Approaches

For details of approaches used in a specific academy – **see the Appendix**.

9. Internet Safety

The internet provides pupils 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 academies block inappropriate content, including extremist content.

For further details of what individual academies do in relation to filtering – **see the Appendix**.

Where staff, pupils or visitors find unblocked extremist content they must report it immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).

We are aware that pupils have access to unfiltered internet when using their mobile phones and staff must be alert to the need for vigilance when pupils are using their phones or talking about unmonitored use of the internet.

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

10. Staff Training

Staff are 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. All staff complete the Channel online training every 34 years and are updated as necessary by the DSL and in weekly staff meetings.

11. Safer Recruitment

We ensure that the staff we appoint to our academies are suitable. Our recruitment procedures are rigorous and we follow the statutory guidance published in part 3 of the latest edition of *Keeping Children Safe in Education*. Veng and barring checks are undertaken on relevant people, including Directors, governors and volunteers.

The arrangements for recruiting all staff, permanent and volunteers, to our academies will follow safer recruitment best practice in education settings guidelines, including, but not limited to, ensuring that DBS checks are always made at the appropriate level, that references are always received and checked and that a single central record of such veng checks is completed and maintained. We will be alert to the possibility that persons may seek to gain positions within our academies so as to unduly influence an academy's character and ethos. We are aware that such persons seek to limit the opportunities for our pupils thereby rendering them vulnerable to extremist views and radicalisation as a consequence.

12. Visitors

Visitors to our academies are made aware of our policy and procedures on Safeguarding / Child Protection and of procedures on arrival at the academies and are given information about what to do if they are concerned about any aspect of child welfare or about the behaviour of adults.

13. Use of External Speakers

We encourage the use of external agencies or speakers at our academies to enrich the experiences of our pupils. Visitors who are invited to speak to pupils will be informed about this policy and relevant veng checks will be undertaken. Such veng is to ensure that we do not unwittingly use agencies that contradict each other with their messages or that are inconsistent with, or are in opposition to, the Trust's / academy'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 academy curriculum so we need to ensure that this work is of benefit to pupils. Each academy 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 Trust / academy 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 the academy to ensure that they are effective.

Speakers will be supervised at all times and will not be allowed to speak to pupils without a member of staff being present.

Staff must not invite speakers into any academy without first obtaining permission from the Headteacher.

14. Whistleblowing

Where there are concerns of extremism or radicalisation, pupils and staff will be encouraged to make use of our internal systems to whistle blow or raise any issue in confidence. (Please refer to the *Whistleblowing Policy*).

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation may not have occurred at any academy to date, it is important for us to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues, which

18. Referral Process

Staff and visitors to the academies must refer all concerns about pupils who show signs of vulnerability or radicalisation. They must be passed to the DSL using the usual methods for reporting other safeguarding concerns. The DSL will record on MyConcern.

When there are significant concerns about a pupil, the DSL, will make a referral to the appropriate body.

19. Monitoring Arrangements

This policy will be monitored by the AGC at least annually by receiving a report from the DSL .

This document will be reviewed every three years, but may be reviewed and updated more frequently if necessary.

APPENDIX 1

Name of Academy: Cottingham CofE Primary School

Name of Headteacher: Ashley Scott

Name of Single Point of Contact (SPOC): Ashley Scott

Name of Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): Ashley Scott

Risk assessment

At Cottingham CofE Primary, we have assessed the level of risk of radicalisation and extremism to be **low**. Our judgement has been made after discussion with the Prevent Officer / local Police and review of our IT systems.

Brish / Fundamental Values

We reinforce these in the following way:

Democracy

Pupils are actively encouraged to have a voice and share their views and opinions regularly. Our active School Spiritual Council, Sports Leaders and Magnificent Minds are such examples. The representatives of these groups meet regularly then take the ideas from those meeting back to their classes for discussion. Every pupil also contributes to the composition of their own class charter at the beginning of every year. This sets ground rules for classroom conduct and establishes the standards of behaviour pupils can expect from each other over the year ahead linked closely to ***'Living the Cottingham CofE vales each day.'***


The Rule of Law


The importance of law is consistently reinforced throughout the School day, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through daily acts of collective worship. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Our School values, which are referred to regularly and are consistently performed is a practical example of this.

Individual Liberty

Pupils are actively encouraged to make decisions and choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a School, we educate and provide A cord of three strands is not easily broken Page 12 boundaries for pupils to take risks and make choices safely. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our Online Safety and PSHE lessons. Whether it be through choice of learning challenge, how they record their learning, participation in one of our extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices and make decisions. All pupils are actively encouraged to make mistakes.

and outcomes. Measures are taken to prevent further access when new sites that are unblocked are found.

Signed (Headteacher) 

Signed (Chair of Governors) 

Date: 12th February 2024

List of Policies referred to in this Policy

- Whistleblowing Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Safeguarding Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Acceptable Use Policy
- Collective Worship Policy
- Equality Information and Objectives
- PSHE Policy
- RSHE Policy
- RE Policy
- SMSC Policy
- Health & Safety.