Radicalisation Policy

Schools have a vital role to play in protecting children from the risks of extremism and radicalisation, a role which is underpinned by the Counter- Terrorism and Security Act 2015, "To have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism."

Great Smeaton Academy Primary School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its children. As a school we recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation is no different from safeguarding against any other vulnerability. At Great Smeaton, 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.

Links to other policies –

- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Computing Policy

Aims and Objectives

The main aims of this policy statement are to ensure that staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalisation; 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 children are safe from harm.

The principle objectives are that:
- All governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are 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 anti-radicalisation and extremism and will follow the policy when issues arise.
- All parents and children will know that the school has policies in place to keep children safe from harm and that the school regularly reviews its systems to ensure they are appropriate and effective.

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.

Procedures for Referrals

Keeping children / young people safe from these risks is a safeguarding matter and should be approached in the same way as safeguarding children from other risks.

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at Great Smeaton to date, it is important for us to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues that affect the region in which we teach. Staff are reminded to suspend any professional disbelief that instances of radicalisation 'could not happen here' and to refer any concerns that you have to the Designated Lead Safeguarding Officer/ Prevent Single Point of Contact – Bernie Greenwood.

In line with any safeguarding issue, the designated officers will contact the Educational Safeguarding Officer at NYCC for appropriate advice and where necessary will further contact the appropriate safeguarding/child protection team.

The Role of the Curriculum

Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. Children are encouraged to share their views and recognise that they are entitled to have their own different beliefs that should not be used to influence others.

Our PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education), Citizenship and SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) provision is embedded across the curriculum, and underpins the ethos of the school.

It is recognised that children with low aspirations are more vulnerable to radicalisation and therefore we strive to equip our Great Smeaton Academy Primary School with confidence, self-belief, respect and tolerance as well as setting high standards and expectations for themselves.

Children are taught about how to stay safe when using the Internet and are encouraged to recognise that people are not always who they say they are online. They are taught to seek adult help if they are upset or concerned about anything they read or see on the Internet.