The Bishop Wand Church of England School

Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy

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<th>Approved date</th>
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<td>January 2017</td>
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The Bishop Wand Church of England School

Prevent Policy

The Bishop Wand Church of England School is committed to providing a secure environment, where students feel safe and are kept safe. All adults in the Bishop Wand School recognise that safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility irrespective of the role they undertake or whether their role has direct contact or responsibility for students or not.

When operating this policy, the Bishop Wand School uses the following accepted Governmental definitions, as supported by the Church of England, which are:

Radicalisation: the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism which lead to terrorism.

Extremism: active or vocal opposition to fundamental British values including but not confined to:
- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

It is important to be aware that, whilst there is a lot of media coverage regarding Islamic extremism, there are other organisations, including extreme right wing groups, who can damage society and present a threat to the community. Schools should at all times ensure that their approach to the threat of radicalisation is balanced, calm and proportionate.

At the Bishop Wand School, the Christian values that we teach sit very comfortably alongside the British values that in many cases have grown directly from the Christian heritage of this country. Our students 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. We recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes for students 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 students.

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 young people with the knowledge, skills and critical thinking, to challenge and debate in an informed way.

At the Bishop Wand School we will therefore provide a broad and balanced curriculum, delivered by skilled professionals, so that our students are enriched, understand and become tolerant of difference and diversity and also to ensure that they thrive, feel valued and not marginalized.

Furthermore, at Bishop Wand School we are also aware that young people 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 students 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 in line with our Behaviour Policy for students and the Code of Conduct for staff. Where misconduct by a teacher is proven the matter will be referred to the National College for Teaching and Leadership for their consideration as to whether to a Prohibition Order is warranted.

Training

As part of wider safeguarding responsibilities all staff will undertake training on an annual basis. This training could include:

1. Channel General Awareness Online
   (http://course.ncalt.com/Channel_General_Awareness/01/index.html)
   This training allows staff to:
   - Explain how Channel links to the governments counter-terrorism strategy (CONTEST)
   - Describe the channel process and its purpose
   - Identify factors that can make people vulnerable to radicalisation
   - Define safeguarding and risk ownership of the Channel process

2. WRAP (workshop to raise awareness of prevent) training led by Alessandro Trombetta (15466) and in liaison with our own Prevent officer David Stewart (13708)

Through this training staff are prepared to act appropriately in case of:
- Disclosures by students 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 students have not actively sought these out.
- Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images.
- Students 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, and police reports of issues affecting students in other schools or settings
• Students 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 equalities
• 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

The Bishop Wand School will closely follow any locally agreed procedure as set out by the Local Authority and the London Diocese Safeguarding Children Board’s agreed processes for safeguarding individuals vulnerable to extremism and radicalisation.

**Teaching and Learning**

Teaching approaches will strive to eradicate the myths and assumptions that can lead to some young people becoming alienated and disempowered, especially where the narrow approaches students 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, but not exclusively in Religious Studies and Citizenship lessons.

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 recognize extremism and are skilled and confident enough to challenge it.

At The Bishop Wand School we recognise the need to encourage students 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.

By delivering a broad and balanced curriculum, 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.

**Local Context**

In collaboration with stakeholders 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 student’s experiences and horizons. We will help support students who may be vulnerable to such influences as part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities and where we believe a student is being directly affected by extremist materials or influences we will ensure that that the student is offered support. Additionally in such instances our school will seek external support from the Local Authority and/or local partnership structures working to prevent extremism.
Prevent Single Point of Contact (SPOC)

The single point of contact is the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).

If there any concerns a member of staff should inform the SPOC.

The DSL will attend training courses as necessary and the appropriate inter-agency training organised by the Safeguarding Children Board at least every two years, again this will include training on extremism and radicalisation and its safeguarding implications.

1. In the first instance, any concerns should be referred to the DSL
2. The DSL will meet with the student to discuss the concerns and make a professional judgment about the appropriate course of action
3. If the DSL is satisfied that the student has not been radicalised and is not involved in extremist activities then any underlying issues (e.g. social isolation) will be dealt with in accordance with the safeguarding policy and the parents will be informed.
4. If the DSL believes that the student is involved in radicalisation or extremist activities then they will refer the matter to the police.

Role of the Governing Body

The Governing Body of the Bishop Wand Church of England 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.

Parents will be issued with a hard copy of this policy on request. This policy will also be made available to parents via the school website.

The Head teacher will actively evaluate the effectiveness of this policy by monitoring the staff group’s understanding and application of the procedures within this policy as their overall duty to safeguard students.
Appendix A – Child Protection Expression of Concern Form

<table>
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<th>PUPIL NAME:</th>
<th>DATE &amp; TIME</th>
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<td>Yr/Date of Birth:</td>
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REPORTED BY:

Disclosure between___________________________ and _________________________________

Cause for concern raised by____________________________

Persons present:

Circumstances:

REPORT:

PRINT NAME:          SIGN:          DATE:
Appendix B - Things to watch out for in a pupil:

It is important to remember that the vast majority of children, of whatever background, will not get involved in extremist action and in many cases suspicious behaviour may be a result of other problems e.g. mental health issues, relationship, drug or alcohol problems, or just the rigours of the teenage years. It is important not to jump to conclusions (not least because accusations of radicalisation could push vulnerable young people into the hands of radicals). However, as general good pastoral care, staff should immediately take note and act upon any of the following:

• Discomfort about ‘fitting in’ *(beyond normal range for teenagers)*
• Appearing distanced from their own culture or heritage.
• Family tensions
• Isolation
• Low self-esteem or feelings of failure
• Lacking in empathy/poor social interaction
• Disassociation with an old group of friends and arrival of a whole lot of new friends
• Significant change in appearance and/or behaviour
• Hostile or inappropriate questions about faith and identity
• Sudden interest in religion
• Unhappiness following a move from one country to another
• Rejection of civic or community life
• Overly developed sense of grievance triggered by perceptions of racism or discrimination
• Involvement with criminal groups and/or imprisonment
• Failure to understand the actions and motivations of others.
• Accessing of violent or extremist websites or possessing violent or extremist literature
• Contact with known extremists
• Justifying the use of violence to solve society's ills
• Joining an extremist organisation
• If your knowledge of the family leads you to believe there is a risk

It should also be remembered that outside events, such as tensions in the local community, events in the country of origin, in the case of migrants, or major world events (such as the Iraq war) can also disproportionately affect the feelings and actions of young people. All staff should be alert to these events and be ready to help young people understand them, and put them into context.
Appendix C – Useful information

More information can be found at:

- Christian values website: http://www.christianvalues4schools.co.uk/

The full Government Prevent Strategy can be viewed at:


Other useful links:

- The Prevent Duty – Protecting Children from Radicalisation
- Surrey Police – Prevent and Counter Terrorism
  http://www.surrey.police.uk/Keeping-Safe/Counter-Terrorism
- “Let’s Talk About It”
  http://www.ltai.info/what-is-prevent/

This policy should be viewed in conjunction with these other school policies:

Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
Learning and Teaching Policy
Behaviour Policy
Anti-Bullying Policy
Race and Disability Policy
Discrimination Policy
Special Education Needs Policy
Recruitment and Retention Practice