

# GPS Prevent Policy



## 1. Introduction

Grangetown Primary School is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all. The aim of the Prevent Strategy is to safeguard children from being drawn into terrorism. It ensures that appropriate support is available for individuals who may be vulnerable to radicalisation.

The threat from terrorism in the United Kingdom may include the exploitation of children, young people or vulnerable people, in order to involve them in terrorism or in activity in support of extremism and terrorism. Since July 2015 all schools (as well as other organisations) have a duty to safeguard children from radicalisation and extremism. Under the Counter Terrorism and Security Act, April 2015 schools must have 'due regard' to the need to prevent people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

## 2. Definitions

**Radicalisation:** the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups / legitimising support for, or use of, terrorist violence.

**Extremism:** vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values such as democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

## 3. Responsibilities of Staff

Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is part of the school's wider safeguarding duties. Staff will be alert to changes in children's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Staff will use their professional judgement to identify children who may be at risk of radicalisation and act appropriately – which may include making a referral to the Channel programme. In protecting our children, Grangetown Primary School will work with Sunderland Safeguarding Children's Partnership as necessary.

Any prejudice, discrimination or extremist views, including derogatory language, displayed by students, staff, visitors, parents or carers will always be challenged and where appropriate dealt with e.g. through reporting or referring to the appropriate authorities such as the Channel Panel, Police, Children's Services etc

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

- Disclosures by students of their exposure to extremist actions, views or materials 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 or staff reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions e.g. pupils distancing themselves from their friendship groups, cultural or religious heritage, loss of interest in activities, refusal to cooperate with teachers/adults requests
- Local schools, Local Authority services, and police reports of issues affecting pupils e.g. local community tensions
- Students voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives

- Use of extremist or 'hate' terms to exclude others or incite violence
- Intolerance of difference, derogatory language or views based on, but not exclusive to, religion, gender, disability, homophobia, race, colour or culture
- Attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others
- Anti-Western or Anti-British views.

#### **4. Referrals**

At Grangetown Primary School, we are committed to protecting our pupils from radicalisation through a process of early intervention.

As with all safeguarding issues, staff are encouraged to raise any concerns they might have about a child with the Designated Safeguarding Lead. The Safeguarding Lead, in discussion with colleagues, will then assess the situation and decide whether further action is required. They will decide the best course of action regarding a referral to external agencies.

The Channel Programme: Channel is a programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. It provides a mechanism for schools to make Prevent referrals if they are concerned that an individual might be vulnerable to radicalisation. An individual's engagement with the programme is entirely voluntary at all stages. In addition to information sharing, if a staff member makes a Prevent referral, it will be considered to see if it meets the criteria for a Channel panel, and staff may be asked to attend the panel (chaired by the local authority) to discuss the individual referred to determine whether support is required.

#### **5. Teaching**

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 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 during PSHCE and whole school assemblies. We will ensure that our teaching approaches help our students build resilience to extremism and give pupils a positive sense of identity.

The ethos of our school helps children become positive, happy members of society; this contributes to the Prevent Strategy. Our ethos ensures that students know and understand what safe and acceptable behaviour is. This is embedded in Grangetown Primary School's approach to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils and includes a programme of assemblies dedicated to promoting fundamental British values. We promote the values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs. We 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.

Our ethos and wider curriculum encourages children to

- Explore other cultures and religions
- Share their own views, in a respectful and tolerant manner
- Challenge prejudice and racist comments
- Develop a strong, positive individual and community identity
- Stay safe online
- Seek help from a trusted adult when necessary

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 student is offered appropriate support and mentoring.

## 6. **Training**

The Designated Safeguarding Lead will attend training at least every two years, in line with DfE guidance. All staff will then access in-school training led by the DSL, who will also share updated guidance as appropriate.

This Policy has been informed by the following legislation:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance/glossary-of-terms>

[https://www.togetherforchildren.org.uk/media/27525/One-minute-guide-Prevent/pdf/TFC\\_1\\_minute\\_guides\\_Prevent.pdf?m=1661439859267](https://www.togetherforchildren.org.uk/media/27525/One-minute-guide-Prevent/pdf/TFC_1_minute_guides_Prevent.pdf?m=1661439859267)

[https://www.sunderland.gov.uk/media/19459/Prevent-Toolkit-for-Sunderland-Schools/pdf/Prevent\\_toolkit\\_for\\_Sunderland\\_Schools.pdf?m=1506610914637](https://www.sunderland.gov.uk/media/19459/Prevent-Toolkit-for-Sunderland-Schools/pdf/Prevent_toolkit_for_Sunderland_Schools.pdf?m=1506610914637)

Policy reviewed & updated:

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