



## **The Prevent duty (reviewed September 2022)**

In order to fulfil the Prevent duty staff at Sexey's School are trained to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation, and what to do when they are identified. Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is part of our wider safeguarding duties, and is similar in nature to protecting children from other harms (e.g. drugs, gangs, neglect, sexual exploitation), whether these come from within their family or are the product of outside influences.

We build students' resilience to radicalisation by promoting fundamental British values and enabling them to challenge extremist views. We encourage pupils to talk about or debate controversial issues providing a safe space in which young people and staff can understand the risks associated with terrorism and develop the knowledge and skills to be able to challenge extremist arguments.

### **What is extremism?**

"Extremism" 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. Included in the definition of extremism are calls for the death of members of the armed forces, whether in this country or overseas. Terrorist groups very often exploit extremist ideas.

### **Risk assessment**

- We should be aware of the increased risk of online radicalisation, as terrorist organisations seek to radicalise young people through the use of social media and the internet.
- There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to a terrorist ideology. We are alert to changes in young people's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Young people at risk of radicalisation may display different signs or seek to hide their views.
- School staff use their professional judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately.
- Procedures are in place for protecting children at risk of radicalisation. These procedures are set out in existing safeguarding policies.

### **Working in partnership**

The Prevent duty builds on existing local partnership arrangements.

- Sexey's School works closely with the Local Safeguarding Children Board who are responsible for co-ordinating what is done by local agencies for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area.
- Other partners such as the police and civil society organisations can provide advice and support.
- Parents and other family members are in a key position to spot signs of radicalisation. We will work with and advise families who raise concerns and point them to the right support mechanisms.

### **Staff training**

- All Teaching, Boarding and key Support Staff have received training on the Prevent Duty. Update training will be provided annually. This equips staff to identify children at risk of being drawn into terrorism and to challenge extremist ideas

### **IT policies**

Sexey's School ensures that children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in school.

- We ensure that suitable filtering is in place.
- Internet safety is integral to our ICT and PSHE curriculum and is the focus of several assemblies.

### **Building children's resilience to radicalisation**

We believe that we can build students' resilience to radicalisation by providing a safe environment for debating controversial issues and helping them to understand how they can influence and participate in decision-making.

- We promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of students and, within this, fundamental British values.
- Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) is effective in providing pupils with time to explore sensitive or controversial issues, and equipping them with the knowledge and skills to understand and manage difficult situations. They are taught to recognise and manage risk, make safer choices, and recognise when pressure from others threatens their personal safety and wellbeing. They develop effective ways of resisting pressures, including knowing when, where and how to get help.
- We encourage students to develop positive character traits through PSHE, such as resilience, determination, self-esteem, and confidence.

### **What happens if there is a concern?**

- The school will follow the school's normal safeguarding procedures, including discussing with the school's designated safeguarding lead and where deemed necessary, with children's social care
- We may contact our local police force for advice.

- The Department for Education has dedicated a telephone helpline (020 7340 7264) to enable staff to raise concerns relating to extremism directly. Concerns can also be raised by email to [counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk) . Please note that the helpline is not intended for use in emergency situations, such as a child being at immediate risk of harm or a security incident, in which case the normal emergency procedures should be followed.

### **Equality and Diversity**

All developments are intended to ensure that no-one is treated in any way less favourably on the grounds of race, colour, national or ethnic or social origin, race, disability, gender, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, marriage & civil partnership, pregnancy & maternity, age, religion/ belief or political/ other personal beliefs.