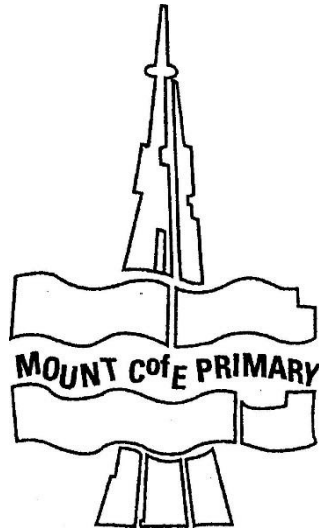
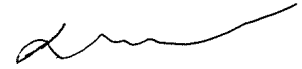




TACKLING EXTREMISM AND RADICALISATION POLICY

Updated: Autumn Term 2022

Review date: Autumn Term 2023

Signed: 
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(On behalf of the School Governors)

POLICY STATEMENT

Mount C of E Primary School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. Every member of staff recognises that safeguarding against radicalisation and extremism is no different to safeguarding against any other vulnerability in today's society. The Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation Policy sets out our beliefs, strategies and procedures to protect vulnerable individuals from being radicalised or exposed to extremist views, by identifying who they are and promptly providing them with support.

LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES

Mount C of E Primary School Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation Policy links to other school policies, including Anti-Bullying, Attitude to Learning, E-Safety and Whole School Policy for Child Protection to Safeguard and Promote the Welfare of Children.

The following national guidelines should also be read when working with this policy;

- PREVENT Strategy (HM Government)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018
- Channel Duty Guidance – Protecting vulnerable people from being drawn into terrorism (HM Government)

AIMS AND PRINCIPLES

Mount C of E Primary School Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation Policy is intended to provide a framework for dealing with issues relating to vulnerability, radicalisation and exposure to extreme views. We recognise that we are well placed to be able to identify safeguarding issues. This policy clearly sets out how the school will deal with such incidents and identifies how the curriculum and ethos underpins our actions.

The objectives are that:

- All governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism is through training 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 tackling extremism and radicalisation and will follow the policy guidance swiftly if issues arise.
- All pupils will understand the dangers of radicalisation and exposure to extremist views, building resilience against these and knowing what to do if they experience them.
- All parents/carers and pupils will know that the school has policies in place to keep pupils safe from harm and that the school regularly reviews its systems to ensure they are appropriate and effective.

The main aims of this policy 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 pupils are safe from harm.

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.

Mount C of E Governing Body has a **zero tolerance** approach to extremist behaviour for all school community members. We rely on our strong Christian values to steer our work and ensure the pastoral care of our children protects them from exposure to negative influences.

At Mount C of E all staff are expected to uphold and promote the fundamental principles of British values, including **democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.**

- Children are encouraged to adopt and live out our Core Christian Values, **C**aring, **H**ope, **U**nderstanding, **R**espect, **C**o-operation, **H**appiness. These complement the key “British Values” of tolerance, respect, understanding, compassion and harmonious living.
- Children are helped to understand the importance of democracy and freedom of speech, through the School Council.
- Children are taught how to keep themselves safe, in school and when using the internet in line with our E-Safety Policy.
- Children participate in local community events so that they appreciate and value their neighbours and friends.
- Children’s wellbeing, confidence and resilience is promoted throughout school in a variety of ways.
- Children are supported in making good choices from a very young age, so they understand the impact and consequences of their actions on others.

There are a number of behaviours which may indicate a child is at risk of being radicalised or exposed to extreme views. These include;

- Spending increasing time in the company of other suspected extremists.
- Changing their style of dress or personal appearance to accord with the group.
- Day-to-day behaviour becoming increasingly centred on an extremist ideology, group or cause.
- Loss of interest in other friends and activities not associated with the extremist ideology, group or cause.
- Possession of materials or symbols associated with an extremist cause.

- Attempts to recruit others to the group/cause.
- Communications with others that suggests identification with a group, cause or ideology.
- Using insulting to derogatory names for another group.
- Increase in prejudice-related incidents committed by that person – these may include;
 - * Physical or verbal assault
 - * Provocative behaviour
 - * Damage to property
 - * Derogatory name calling
 - * Possession of prejudice-related materials
 - * Prejudice related ridicule or name calling
 - * Inappropriate forms of address
 - * Refusal to co-operate
 - * Attempts to recruit to prejudice-related organisations
 - * Condoning or supporting violence towards others.

PROCEDURES FOR REFERRALS

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at Mount C of E Primary School to date, it is important for us to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues which affect the society in which we teach. Staff are reminded to suspend any ‘professional disbelief’ that instances of radicalisation ‘could not happen here’ and to be ‘professionally inquisitive’ where concerns arise, referring any concerns through the appropriate channels. (See appendix 1 – Dealing with referrals)

We believe that it is possible to intervene to protect people who are vulnerable. **Early intervention is vital** and staff must be aware of the established processes for front line professionals to refer concerns about individuals and/or groups. We must have the confidence to challenge, the confidence to intervene and ensure that we have strong safeguarding practices based on the most up-to-date guidance and best practise.

Currently five members of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) are trained as Designated Senior Leaders for Child Protection and Safeguarding and will deal swiftly with any referrals made by staff or with concerns reported by staff.

The Head Teacher will discuss the most appropriate course of action on a case-by-case basis and will decide when a referral to external agencies is needed (see appendix 1 – Dealing with referrals)

As with any child protection referral, staff must be made aware that if they do not agree with a decision not to refer, they can make the referral themselves and will be given the contact details to do this.

GOVERNORS, LEADERS AND STAFF

The Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team are the leaders for referrals relating to extremism and radicalisation.

Staff will be fully briefed about what to do if they are concerned about the possibility of radicalisation relating to a pupil, or if they need to discuss specific children whom they consider to be vulnerable to radicalisation or extremist views.

The Head Teacher will work in conjunction with any external agencies to decide the best course of action to address concerns which arise.

Prejudicial behaviour can be a factor in radicalisation and extremism. With this in mind, Mount C of E Primary School follows the Authority Guidance with regard to reporting prejudice and works in partnership with the Achievement and Equality Team.

THE ROLE OF THE CURRICULUM

We promote a broad and balanced curriculum, promoting respect, tolerance and diversity. Children are encouraged to share their views and recognise that they are entitled to have their own different beliefs which should not be used to influence others.

Our PSHE provision is embedded across the curriculum, including in RE. It directs our assemblies 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 pupils with confidence, self-belief, respect and resilience as well as setting high standards and expectations for themselves.

Children are regularly 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.

STAFF TRAINING

We will ensure that our staff are fully aware of the threats, risks and vulnerabilities that are linked to radicalisation; are aware of the process of radicalisation and how this might be identified early on and are aware of how we can provide support as a school to ensure that our children are resilient and able to resist involvement in radical or extreme activities. (See Safeguarding file re staff trained on Safeguarding, FGM, Channel, Child Abuse and Neglect etc.)

VISITORS AND THE USE OF SCHOOL PREMISES

If any member of staff wishes to invite a visitor in the school, then they will follow Nottinghamshire County Council 'Guidance on Visitors, including VIPs, to schools – October 2019'

APPROVED

Appendix 1 – Dealing with referrals

We are aware of the potential indicating factors that a child is vulnerable to being radicalised or exposed to extreme views, including peer pressure, influence from other people or the internet, bullying, crime and anti-social behaviour, family tensions, race/hate crime, lack of self-esteem or identity, prejudicial behaviour and personal or political grievances.

In the event of prejudicial behaviour, the following system will be followed;

- All incidents of prejudicial behaviour will be reported directly to the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher.
- All incidents will be fully investigated and recorded in line with records kept for any other safeguarding incident.
- Parents/carers will be contacted and the incident discussed in detail, aiming to identify motivating factors, any changes in circumstances at home, parental views of the incident and to assess whether the incident is serious enough to warrant a further referral. A note of this meeting is kept alongside the initial referral in the Safeguarding folder.
- The Snr Designated Safeguarding Lead will follow-up any referrals for a period of four weeks after the incident to assess whether there is a change in behaviour and/or attitude. A further meeting with parents would be held if there is not a significant positive change in behaviour.
- If deemed necessary, serious incidents will be discussed and referred to the Local Authority Achievement and Equality Team – ecas@nottscc.gov.uk Tel - 0115 854 6440.
- In the event of a referral relating to serious concerns about potential radicalisation or extremism, the school will also contact:
The local Police Prevent Team – prevent@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk Tel – 101 ext 801 5060
The Police Counter Terrorism Unit (CTU) Security and Partnership Office –hotline 0845 678 123
- The DfE has set up a national helpline which is open Monday-Friday 9am – 6pm (excluding bank holidays). The telephone number is 020 7340 7264 or by email at counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk