



# The Stalyhill Schools' Federation

## Prevent Policy

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| Approved By:             | Full Governing Body |

**Within the Stalyhill Schools' Federation we will continuously strive to ensure that everyone is treated with respect and dignity. Each person will be given fair and equal opportunities to develop their full potential regardless of their gender, transgender, ethnicity, culture and religious background, sexuality, disability, or special educational needs and ability. The school will actively promote equality and foster positive attitudes and commitment to an education for equality.**

## **Introduction**

Stalyhill Schools' Federation 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 Prevent 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. This Policy is based on the document:

***The Prevent duty - Departmental advice for schools and childcare providers  
June 2015***

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/439598/prevent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/439598/prevent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf)

## **Links to other Policies**

Stalyhill Schools' Federation Prevent Policy links to the following policies:

- Child Protection
- Safeguarding
- Equality Scheme
- Anti-Bullying
- Behaviour and Discipline
- Online Safety
- British Values

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

- PREVENT Strategy HM Government – Counter Terrorism Act 2015
- Channel Duty Guidance: Protecting vulnerable people from being drawn into terrorism 2015
- Keeping Children Safe in Education DfE 2024
- Working Together to Safeguard Children HM Government 2013.

## **Aims and Principles**

This 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 and this policy clearly sets out how the school will deal with such incidents and identifies how the curriculum and ethos underpins our actions.

Within the Stalyhill schools:

- 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 tackling extremism and radicalisation and will follow the policy guidance swiftly when issues arise.

- All pupils will be taught an age appropriate understanding of 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

There is no agreed definition of terrorism internationally

The UK's Terrorism Act 2000 describes terrorism as:

"The use or threat of action designed to influence the government or an international governmental organisation or to intimidate the public, or a section of the public; made for the purposes of advancing a political, a religious, a racial or an ideological cause."

**Radicalism** challenges the legitimacy of established norms and policies. It does not, in itself, lead to violence.

**Radicalisation** is a process by which an individual or group comes to adopt increasingly extreme political, social, or religious ideals and aspirations that reject or undermine the status quo or reject and/or undermine contemporary ideas and expressions of freedom of choice

**Extremism** is different from radicalism. Extremists accept violence as a legitimate means for obtaining political goals without necessarily exercising violence themselves. Extremism involves categorical us-versus-them thinking, often fuelled by dense, closed –off environment of like-minded individuals.

The government has defined **extremism** in the *Prevent* strategy as:

*"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. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces"*.

**Terrorism or violent extremism** encompasses violent behaviour that originate in an ideology shared at least by a limited group of individuals. Violent extremism includes the willingness as well as training, preparation and the actual conduct of violent acts against civilians.

(Delphine Michel & Camille Schyns, European Institute of Peace)

## Procedures for referrals / risk assessments

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at Stalyhill Infant or Junior School to date, it is important for us to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues which affect the local area, city and 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 practice.

The Designated Safeguarding Leads 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 via the safeguarding board as outlined in the Safeguarding Policy.

### **Governors, Leaders and Staff**

The Executive Headteacher and Heads of Schools are the leaders for referrals relating to extremism and radicalisation. In the unlikely event that the no Senior Leaders are available, all staff know the channels by which to make referrals via the information in the School's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

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 role of the Curriculum and British Values**

Within the Stalyhill Schools' Federation, we offer a curriculum that is broad and balanced. It promotes 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. This is further underpinned by our belief that as a school we are committed to upholding the British Values that are set out by the DfE – in Promoting British Values through Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural work 2014.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/promoting-fundamental-british-values-through-smisc>

We promote the fundamental British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. These beliefs direct our assemblies and underpin the ethos of the schools.

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 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.

### **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 schools to ensure that our children are resilient and able to resist involvement in radical or extreme activities. (See **Appendix 2**- Staff training)

Advice from The Prevent duty - Departmental advice for schools and childcare providers June 2015 is that:

*"Individual schools and childcare providers are best placed to assess their training needs in the light of their assessment of the risk. As a minimum, however, schools should ensure that the Designated Safeguarding Lead undertakes Prevent awareness training and is able to provide advice and support to other members of staff on protecting children from the risk of radicalisation".*

The leaders for referrals relating to extremism and radicalisation at this school complete training annually and all other staff and Governors receive regular updates and complete training every three years.

### **Visitors and the use of school premises**

If any member of staff wishes to invite a visitor in the school, they must first seek permission from the Headteacher.

Upon arriving at the school, all visitors including contractors, will be made aware of who the Designated Officers for the school are and how to report any concerns which they may experience.

If any agreement is made to allow non-school groups or organisations to use the premises, appropriate checks will be made before agreeing the contract. Usage will be monitored and in the event of any behaviour not in keeping with the Prevent Policy, the schools will contact the police and terminate the contract.

### **Policy Review**

The Governing Body of our federation is responsible for ensuring the annual review of this policy. The policy will be reviewed annually in the Autumn Term.

## **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 Designated Safeguarding Leads
- All incidents will be fully investigated and recorded in line with the federation policy, and records will be kept in line with procedures 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 will be kept alongside the initial referral.
- If deemed necessary, serious incidents will be discussed and referred to the MASH – 0161 342 4101 (Out of hours – 0161 342 2222)
- If deemed necessary, a Referral to the GMP may be needed (see below)

<https://www.gmp.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/t/prevent/prevent/>

## Appendix 2: Staff Training

| Type of Training                                               | Delivered by                                                                                                            | Delivered to                                                                | When and at what frequency                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Channel Awareness Training                                     | Online :<br><a href="http://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk">http://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk</a> | Designated Safeguarding Leads<br><br>All Staff and Governors                | Annually (Certificates held in school)<br><br>On induction & Every 3 years (Certificates held in school) |
| Safer Recruitment Training                                     | Tameside Safeguarding Board                                                                                             | Headteacher and relevant Committee Governors                                | Every 3 years (Certificates held in school)                                                              |
| Safeguarding and Child Protection 'Working Together' Training  | Tameside Safeguarding Board                                                                                             | Designated Safeguarding Leads and designated Governors for child protection | Every 2 years (Certificates held in school)                                                              |
| Safeguarding and Child Protection Training                     | Tameside Safeguarding Board                                                                                             | All Staff and Governors                                                     | On induction & Every 3 years (Certificates held in school)                                               |
| Refresher and Update training in safeguarding and Prevent Duty | Designated Safeguarding Leads                                                                                           | All Staff<br><br>Governors                                                  | Every term<br><br>Annually (at least)                                                                    |