

**Springfield Primary School**



**PREVENT Policy**

**Policy Drafted by HT on 22.10.2015**

## **Springfield Primary**

### **PREVENT POLICY**

<b>Date of Ratification:</b> <b>GB Approval:</b> <b>Autumn 2015</b>		<b>Signed:</b>  <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Susan Powis (HEAD TEACHER)</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Jim Williams (CHAIR OF GOVERNORS)</b></p>
<b>Review date:</b>  <b>Review:</b> <b>Autumn 2017</b>		<b>Signed:</b>  <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Susan Powis (HEAD TEACHER)</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Jim Williams (CHAIR OF GOVERNORS)</b></p>
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#### Safeguarding Statement

**At Springfield Primary we respect and value all children and are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our pupils so they can learn, in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We believe every pupil should be able to participate in all school activities in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from harm. This is the responsibility of every adult employed by, or invited to deliver services at Springfield Primary. We recognise our responsibility to safeguard all who access school and promote the welfare of all our pupils by protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional abuse, neglect and bullying.**

## **PREVENT POLICY**

### **Principles**

☒ *'Schools should be safe spaces in which children and young people can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and the extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology, and learn how to challenge these ideas...Schools should be mindful of their existing duties to forbid political indoctrination and secure a balanced presentation of political issues'* (HM Government Prevent Duty Guidance for England & Wales, 2015).

At Springfield Primary School we ensure that these principles are adhered to.

The Head Teacher monitors the school's work in this regard.

### **What we do in school**

'Safeguarding' pupils is our number one priority at this school. This document should be read in conjunction with our policies on 'Safeguarding' and 'Child Protection'.

### **Risk Assessment**

We assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorism, including support for extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology, by ensuring that all staff listen and look out for signs that this may be of concern. The Head Teacher risk assesses all visiting speakers to ensure they are suitable and makes sure that a senior member of staff is always in attendance during these sessions should there be a need to intervene.

### **Definitions & 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.

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 or derogatory names for another group.

☒ Increase in prejudice-related incidents committed by that person – these may include;

- o physical or verbal assault
- o provocative behaviour
- o damage to property
- o derogatory name calling
- o possession of prejudice-related materials
- o prejudice related ridicule or name calling
- o inappropriate forms of address
- o refusal to co-operate
- o attempts to recruit to prejudice-related organisations
- o condoning or supporting violence towards others.

### **Training**

At least one member of the Senior Leadership Team will be trained by the Police and / or other appropriate agencies, and all staff receive annual in-house training on what to look and listen out for, and how to report any concerns.

### **Reporting**

Our protocols for reporting any concerns involve staff making a written record of the concern and passing this directly to the Head Teacher; who will pass these concerns onto the PREVENT team for Sandwell.

### **Procedures for Referrals**

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

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.

The Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher and Family Support worker 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 Headteacher 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.

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.

### **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 SLT or the Head Teacher.
- ☒ All incidents will be fully investigated and recorded 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 in the Safeguarding folder.
- ☒ The SLT 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 Sandwell Children's Services.
- ☒ In the event of a referral relating to serious concerns about potential radicalisation or extremism, the school will also contact Sandwell Police Counter Terrorism Unit (CTU).

### **Curriculum**

We plan a series of age related assemblies throughout the year that cover the issues; along with less explicit curriculum coverage about tolerance, extremist views etc. through our PSHE / Circle Time programmes.

### **Visitors and the Use of School Premises**

If any member of staff wishes to invite a visitor in the school, they must first gain approval from the Head Teacher who will determine whether or not the visitor can enter school and whether or not they will be subject to Safeguarding Checks including DBS checks and photo identification.

Upon arriving at the school, all visitors including contractors, will read the child protection and safeguarding guidance for visitors and be made aware of who the DSLs 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 Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation Policy, the school will contact the Police and terminate the contract.

