

Preventing extremism that can lead to terrorism

Introduction

This policy outlines *Laira Green Primary School's* approach and commitments to preventing extremism that can lead to terrorism.

Background

The national Prevent Strategy is part of the government's overall counter-terrorism strategy ("Contest"). Prevent aims to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism through three objectives:-

- responding to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it;
- preventing people from being drawn into terrorism and ensuring that they are given appropriate advice and support; and
- working with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation that we need to address.

"Channel" forms a key part of the Prevent Strategy. This is a multi-agency process to identify and provide support to individuals who are at risk of being drawn into terrorism.

Commitment

Laira Green Primary School recognises the real and serious threat posed by extremism that can lead to terrorism, and that this can involve the exploitation of vulnerable people. We are committed to supporting the national Prevent Strategy and associated work of Plymouth Prevent Group and Plymouth's Channel Panel, as required.

Laira Green Primary School further recognises:-

- that under the Counter Terrorism & Security Act 2015 we have duty to pay "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism" (the "Prevent Duty")
- the need to address all forms of terrorism, prioritised according to intelligence about the threat they pose to our national security;
- the importance of protecting freedom of speech; but that preventing terrorism will, at times, mean challenging extremist ideas to stop people moving into terrorist-related activity;
- that preventing individuals from getting drawn into terrorism is part of safeguarding;

- that communications and community engagement concerning Prevent need to be objective and based on the risks; and
- that the government defines “extremism” 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 death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas”.

There is no place in *Laira Green Primary School*, for extremist views which are opposed to fundamental British values and can lead to terrorism. We will ensure that our work is consistent with the law and the British values of tolerance, democracy and liberty whilst enabling people to explore issues like terrorism and the use of violence in a considered and informed way.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, families and adults at risk, is everyone’s responsibility. Providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism is an important part of this, and fundamental to our duty of care. Therefore, in partnership, we will:-

- identify individuals at risk;
- assess the nature and extent of that risk; and
- develop the most appropriate support plan for the individuals concerned.

Laira Green Primary School expects everyone associated with our work (including employees, board members, sub-contractors and those commissioned by us to play their part delivering this. We will cooperate with partners via Channel (or other routes, eg Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements) including sharing information and delivering interventions, as appropriate.

Anyone identifying an individual who is at risk of getting drawn into terrorism must discuss it promptly with *the headteacher, deputy headteacher, Inclusion Co-ordinator* or another suitable person and take responsibility for ensuring follow up action is taken as appropriate. This does not supersede our wider statutory safeguarding duties.

A Prevent concern does not have to be proven beyond reasonable doubt; it should be based on something that raises concern, which is assessed by using professional judgement.

Vulnerability

Each person is unique, and is therefore potentially vulnerable to getting drawn into terrorism for different reasons. Influences may come from eg family, community, and wider society, in terms of both the problem and the solution and can take many different forms. This can involve travel abroad as well concerns such as inappropriate fund-raising, peer pressure, persuasive individuals and internet influences.

Communities

Laira Green Primary School recognises that if mishandled, the Prevent agenda can have a detrimental effect on communities and community cohesion. There is no single profile of a terrorist. Extremism leading to terrorism can come from any community and a wide variety of motives including mis-use of religion and political or ideological causes. Influences can come from this country or abroad. Communications and community engagement need to reflect this and focus on threats and risks objectively assessed, rather than perceptions and generalisations.

Training

Laira Green Primary School will ensure appropriate people within the organisation participate in Prevent training (eg the Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent - WRAP) which is provided in Plymouth.

Implementation

In order to ensure this policy is effectively implemented, *Laira Green Primary School* will agree and deliver specific actions and support delivery of Plymouth Prevent Group's action plan as appropriate. As part of this, we will consider things like: use of our premises including prayer rooms; platforms for radical speakers and events; use of social media and internet; and where charitable collections end up.

Progress with implementation will be reviewed at least annually.

Adopted: *date*