



Woodlawn  
School

# Anti-Radicalisation Policy Statement

Reviewed – February 2020

Reviewed – January 2025

Woodlawn School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. As a school we recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation is no different from safeguarding against any other vulnerability. Whilst we know that this concept is impossible for many of our young people with profound learning difficulties we do have an older cohort of students who because of their learning difficulties are vulnerable to suggestion of any sort.

In formulating this policy Woodlawn School has taken account of guidance from the DfE which has called on schools to make explicit their preventative measures to minimize the threat of extremism in their setting.

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

### **Links to other policies**

The Woodlawn School Anti-Radicalisation policy statement links to the following policies:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding
- Equality
- Anti-bullying policy
- Behaviour policy
- Core Values
- E Safety Policy

### **Aims**

The anti-radicalisation policy relates to all of our school aims

- We value the way in which all children are unique, and our curriculum promotes respect for the views of each individual child, as well as for people of all cultures.
- We value the spiritual and moral development of each person, as well as their intellectual and physical growth.
- We value the importance of each person in our community.
- We organise our curriculum so that we promote co-operation and understanding between all members of our community.
- We use the community to enrich the curriculum.
- We value the rights enjoyed by each person in our society.
- We respect each child in our school for who they are, and we treat them with fairness and honesty.
- We aim to enable each person to be successful, and we provide equal opportunities for all the children in our school.
- We value our environment, and we aim, through our curriculum, to teach respect for our world, and how we should care for it for future generations, as well as our own.
- We value parents and work in partnership with them to enrich the curriculum. Parents are informed about the curriculum through topic letters, homework and curriculum workshops, and are positively encouraged to become involved.
- We see the language approach to the curriculum as a vital means to encourage pupils to be independent, assertive and make choices.

## **Principles**

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

The principle objectives are that:

- 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 anti-radicalisation and extremism and will follow the policy when issues arise.
- All parents 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.

## **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. These views are not linked to any particular religion or set of beliefs.

## **Procedures & Referrals**

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at Woodlawn School to date and the aim of this policy to help ensure that this remains the case, it is important for us to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues which affect the region in which we teach. Staff are reminded to suspend any professional disbelief that instances of radicalisation 'could not happen here' and to refer any concerns through the appropriate channels (currently via the Designated Safeguarding Lead & Deputy Designated Safeguarding leads).

## **The Role of the Curriculum**

Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. Young people 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 (Personal, Social and Health Education), Citizenship and SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) provision is embedded across the curriculum, and underpins the ethos of the school.

It is recognised that young people 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. We are aware that young people with learning difficulties have on occasion been used in relation to radical activities by those more able than themselves.

Young people 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.

Young People are supported in making good choices about a range of issues from an early age so that they understand, where possible, the impact and consequences of their actions on others.

### **Staff Training**

Through CPD opportunities in school, we will ensure that our staff and governors 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.

### **Policy review**

The Anti-Radicalisation policy statement will be reviewed annually as part of the overall Child Protection and Safeguarding policy review.