

Westfield Arts College

Prevent Statement & Risk Assessment

Reviewed by committee	Personal Development	Policy type: Statutory
Adopted by Governing Body	12/05/2025	Review cycle: Three years
Date for next review	Summer 2028	Signed by Chair: 

Prevent Statement

Prevent lead: Karen Bidwell

Preventing Radicalisation in school

Building resilience in our children and young people and the promotion of fundamental British values is at the heart of preventing any form of radicalisation. We do this by providing a safe place in which children and young people can discuss issues, and we aim to give them the knowledge and confidence to challenge extremist beliefs and ideologies. Our Prevent duty, is carried out under the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, which legally requires us to take steps to prevent children and young people from being drawn into terrorism. We take this duty seriously and carry out the four main actions responsibly, namely: risk assessment, working in partnership, staff training and IT policies.

If we assess a child or young person as being at risk, we will liaise closely with parents and carers and make a referral to the relevant organisations which focus on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being susceptible to extremist ideology and radicalisation. We recognise that we play a vital role in keeping children and young people safe from harm, including from the risks of extremism and radicalisation, and in promoting the welfare of children and young people in our care.

What we do if there is a concern

If we have a concern about a particular child or young person we will follow the school's normal safeguarding procedures, including discussing with the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead, and where deemed necessary, with children's social care. We may also contact the local police force or dial 101 (the non-emergency number). They can talk to us in confidence about concerns and help us gain access to support and advice.

The Department for Education has dedicated a telephone helpline (020 7340 7264) to enable staff and governors to raise concerns relating to extremism directly. Concerns can also be raised by email to counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk. If a child or young person is assessed as being at immediate risk of harm or a security incident we will follow emergency procedures.

If you are concerned that a family member, friend, loved one or member of the community is expressing extreme views, hatred or could be being exploited by extremists, we can offer support and advice. Alternatively please visit: <https://actearly.uk/>

PREVENT RISK ASSESSMENT – EXTREMISM AND RADICALISATION

The Prevent duty requires all schools to "have due regard to the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism", under the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015. The duty covers all types of extremism, whether political, religious or ideological

Radicalisation is defined as the process by which people come to support terrorism and extremism and, in some cases, to then participate in terrorist groups. **Extremism** is 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.

Since the publication of the Prevent Duty, there has been an awareness of the specific need to safeguard vulnerable children, young people and families from violent extremism. There have been attempts to radicalise vulnerable children and young people to hold extreme views including views justifying political, religious, sexist or racist violence, or to steer them into a rigid and narrow ideology that is intolerant of diversity, leaving them susceptible to future radicalisation.

Risk Area	Hazard	Individuals at risk	Risk Low Medium High	Control Measures	Notes/Additional Controls	Residual Risk Low Medium High
Welfare and Safeguarding	Staff or other contracted providers (e.g. regular supply staff) are not aware of the school procedure for handling concerns and/ or do not feel comfortable sharing issues internally	Pupils	High	- Designated Safeguarding Lead has received 'Prevent' awareness training and has disseminated the training and salient points to all staff, Governors and other regular contracted staff in the setting - Contracted staff are made aware of the person to whom concerns are to be reported - Preventing pupils from being exposed to radicalisation or extremism is part of safeguarding policies and procedures i.e. Child Protection & Online safety - Staff complete appropriate Prevent training on induction and every 3 years; staff are familiar with our Child Protection Policy and procedures - Concerns are reported to the DSL - Records are held of any referrals with an audit trail being maintained – regular monitoring by the DSL takes place		Low

Risk Area	Hazard	Individuals at risk	Risk Low Medium High	Control Measures	Notes/Additional Controls	Residual Risk Low Medium High
	Pupils are radicalised by factors internal or external to the school	Pupils	Medium	- We have a range of activities to promote the spiritual, moral, social and emotional needs of pupils aimed at protecting them from radical and extremist influences - Staff deliver lessons to help pupils develop critical thinking around influence, social media and other on-line safety - Staff and other adults working with pupils are challenged if opinions or language expressed are contrary to community cohesion or 'British values' - Staff are able to challenge pupils, parents or governors if opinions expressed are contrary to community cohesion or 'British values' - Staff are aware of local factor i.e. political views etc. which might have an influence on pupils - Staff in EYFS undertaking home visits are briefed on the signs to look out for around the home environment		Low
	School does not work with statutory partners and agencies and/or does not feel comfortable sharing extremism related concerns externally	Pupils	High	- We communicate regularly with statutory partners and agencies regarding a range of concerns - All staff are aware that concerns are reported to the DSL - We have an appropriate internal referral process in place for all child protection matters including extremism and the DSL is aware of how to expedite concerns to other agencies.		Low
Curriculum and Learning	Pupils are exposed by school staff or contracted providers to messages supportive of extremism, terrorism or which contradicts 'British values'	Pupils	Medium	- We have appropriate whistleblowing procedures and a range of 'safeguarding' policies which are known and understood by staff, volunteers and regular contracted staff - Staff and other adults working with pupils are challenged if opinions or language expressed are contrary to community cohesion or 'British values' - We have appropriate filters in place which reduce the risk of pupils being able to access inappropriate information via the school IT system. - Opportunities to promote 'British values' are clearly identified within all curriculum areas - Areas of the curriculum e.g. RSHE are used for controlled and safe debate and discussion on radical or extreme issues and ideologies		Low
	Behaviours which harm the ability of different groups and individuals to learn and work together	Pupils and staff	High	- We have an Equality Objectives and Information in place which are understood by staff and others who regularly work in the setting - Pupils are taught about respect for other cultures and gain an understanding of community cohesion - Opportunities are created both within the environment and the		Low

Risk Area	Hazard	Individuals at risk	Risk Low Medium High	Control Measures	Notes/Additional Controls	Residual Risk Low Medium High
	are left unchallenged			- curriculum to promote the setting's ethos and values - Displays and other literature available in school reflects and encourages diversity and community cohesion - Whole School Therapeutic Behaviour Policy includes information on anti-bullying strategies and preventative measures for dealing with bullying - Inappropriate behaviour, language and attitudes are challenged by staff		
Organisational Culture	Staff or contracted providers are not aware of/do not subscribe to the ethos and values of the school	Pupils and staff	High	- Senior Leadership Team are aware of the 'Prevent' Strategy and its objectives as it relates to both the national and local context and take the lead in ensuring that the overall values and ethos of the school reflect strategies to support the 'Prevent' duty - Clear awareness of roles and responsibilities regarding 'Prevent' exist across the school - Recruitment, selection and induction programmes exist which include reference to the ethos and values of the school - Staff development programmes include reference to 'British values' and to the promotion of community cohesion - Guidance and literature is available for staff on the 'Prevent duty' and local aspects of extremism and radicalisation - A process is in place to identify and develop 'lessons learned' identified either by us or by other organisations/advisers		Low
	Staff are unable to raise extremism related organisational concerns due to the lack of an appropriate whistleblowing procedure	Pupils and staff	High	- Appropriate whistleblowing procedures are in place and adults working with pupils are made aware of them - Records are kept of incidents which are reported to the DSL for consideration and, where appropriate, are referred on to the appropriate agency		Low
Visiting speakers/ environment	Pupils/staff are exposed by visiting speakers to messages supportive of extreme ideologies or which contradict 'British values'	Pupils and staff	medium	- Materials to be delivered by external speakers are discussed with the speaker prior to delivery - Visiting speakers are not left alone with pupils	Assemblies and class speakers	Low
	Extremist or terrorist related material is displayed within the setting	Pupils/staff /others	medium	- The appropriateness and relevance of all materials or literature are considered prior to display - Staff concerns are discussed with the DSL before materials are used - Requests for externally provided materials to be displayed are considered		Low

Risk Area	Hazard	Individuals at risk	<u>Risk</u> Low Medium High	Control Measures	Notes/Additional Controls	<u>Residual Risk</u> Low Medium High
				and, where appropriate, authorised by the Head teacher		
	School premises are used to host events supportive of extremism or which popularise hatred or intolerance of those with particular protected characteristics	All premises users	medium	- Hire and lettings agreements include the fact that the premises will not be hired out to extremist groups or those who popularise hatred or intolerance of those with protected characteristics - Hire or lettings agreements include a notice period for hire i.e. short notice hires will not be authorised.		Low
ICT and on-line study	Pupils access extremist or terrorist material whilst using school networks	Pupils	High	- The ICT network has appropriate filters which block sites which are deemed to be inappropriate - School has robust acceptable use procedures for both pupils, staff which include advice on inappropriate attempts to subvert the network - E-mail accounts of both pupils and staff are monitored for content on a regular basis - Pupils are encouraged to report to an adult any material which leaves them feeling worried or uncomfortable		Low
	On-line/social media communications relating to extremist or terrorist materials feature the school's branding	All	High	We have oversight of, or administration rights for, all social media accounts set up by us.		Low
	Pupils access extremist or terrorist materials out of the school setting	Pupils	High	- Parents are provided with advice on where they can access information and support in relation to on-line extremism and radicalisation and how to help keep their children safe on-line - Information sharing sessions are provided to pupils, staff and parents on staying safe on-line		Low
Additional Notes and further action required:						