



PREVENT Guidance for Staff

Written by D Shaw - April, 2016

Adapted from DoFE 'The Prevent Duty', June 2015

Review date April, 2017

Governor with responsibility for this guidance;

Mrs Y Burdock

Heltwate School fully recognises the responsibility it has under Section 157/175 of the Education Act 2002, to have arrangements for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the children in its care.

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the children and young people in our care and expect all staff, visiting students and volunteers to share wholeheartedly in this commitment.

Introduction

From 1 July 2015 all schools, registered early years childcare providers and registered later years childcare providers (referred to in this advice as 'childcare providers') are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, in the exercise of their functions, to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism". This duty is known as the **Prevent duty**. It applies to a wide range of public-facing bodies. Bodies to which the duty applies must have regard to the statutory guidance.

At Heltwate School, it is essential that staff are able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation, and know what to do when concerns are identified. Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation should be seen as part of the schools' wider safeguarding duties, and is similar in nature to protecting children from other harms (e.g. drugs, gangs, neglect, sexual exploitation), whether these come from within their family or are the product of outside influences. We should also strive to build pupils' resilience to radicalisation by promoting fundamental British values, enabling them to challenge extremist views, and nurturing a strong sense of community and belonging.

All staff must always challenge extremist and radical views, whenever they may arise. It is important to emphasise that the Prevent duty is not intended to stop pupils debating controversial issues, where they are able to do so. On the contrary, in upper school and Olympic College we will always provide a safe space in which young people and staff can understand the risks associated with terrorism and develop the knowledge and skills to be able to challenge extremist arguments. In lower school, we support our students understanding by developing an appreciation of diversity and promoting an ethos where students feel valued, because of who they are.

All staff and selected visitors are DBS checked according to current legislation.

Risk assessment

All the classroom staff are expected to assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorism, including support for extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology. This means being able to demonstrate both a general understanding of the risks affecting children and young people in the area and a specific understanding of how to identify individual children who may be at risk of radicalisation and what to do to support them.

As with managing other safeguarding risks, staff should be alert to changes in children's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Staff should use their professional judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately which may include making a referral to the Channel program.

Channel is a programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. It provides a mechanism for schools to make referrals if they are concerned that an individual might be vulnerable to radicalisation. An individual's engagement with the programme is entirely voluntary at all stages

Staff training

The statutory guidance refers to the importance of Prevent awareness training to equip staff to identify children at risk of being drawn into terrorism and to challenge extremist ideas. The Home Office has developed a core training product for this purpose - Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent (WRAP). Heltwate School is committed to ensuring and promoting the wellbeing of the students in our care. ALL staff and the governing board undertake safeguarding training annually to ensure they are aware of current and best practice. Updates are also immediately made available and highlighted to staff as and when they arise. Our Designated Safeguarding Lead, and head teacher, as SPOC has undertaken PREVENT awareness training and is able to provide advice and support to other members of staff on protecting children from the risk of radicalisation, when and if required. Other members of the safeguarding team have also undertaken this training, in a supporting role.

IT policy

The statutory guidance makes clear the need for schools to ensure that children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in schools. Schools should ensure that suitable filtering is in place. More generally, schools have an important role to play in equipping children and young people to stay safe online, both in

school and outside. Internet safety is an integral to the school's ICT curriculum and can also be embedded in PSHE and SRE. General advice and resources for teachers on internet safety are available on the UK Safer Internet Centre website. As with other online risks of harm, every teacher at Heltwate needs to be aware of the risks posed by the online activity of extremist and terrorist groups.

Building children's resilience to radicalisation

Schools can build pupils' resilience to radicalisation by providing a safe environment for debating controversial issues and helping them to understand how they can influence and participate in decision-making. Schools are already expected to promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils and, within this, fundamental British values. At Heltwate School, we promote fundamental British values by means of our Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum, providing an effective means of providing pupils with time to explore sensitive or controversial issues, and equipping them with the knowledge and skills to understand and manage difficult situations. We encourage our pupils to recognise and manage risk, make safer choices, and recognise when pressure from others threatens their personal safety and wellbeing, and knowing when to seek help. We also consistently encourage our pupils to develop positive character traits, such as resilience, determination, self-esteem, and confidence.

Our Citizenship curriculum helps to provide pupils with the knowledge, skills and understanding to prepare them to play a full and active part in society and equip them to explore political and social issues critically, to debate, and to make reasoned arguments where appropriate. In Citizenship lessons, pupils learn about democracy, government and how laws are made and upheld. Our students are also taught to appreciate the diverse national, regional, religious and ethnic identities in the United Kingdom and the need for mutual respect and understanding within society.

What to do if you have a concern

If a member of staff at Heltwate has a concern about a particular pupil they should follow the school's normal safeguarding procedures, including discussing with the school's designated safeguarding lead, or member of the safeguarding team, and where deemed necessary, with children's social care. Staff can also contact the local police force or dial 101 (the non-emergency number). They will talk to you in confidence about your concerns and help you 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.

This guidance was ratified by the governing board on

and will be reviewed on

Signed by the Head teacher