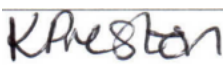


Policy/Procedure Name:	PREVENT POLICY		
Last Update:	August 2024	Next Update Due:	April 2027

Author	Alex Smythe
Signature of Authorised Individual	
Signature of the Director	

Willow Park 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. 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.

Warwickshire is a relatively safe place to live, and most crime types are continuing to reduce. However, we also live in a global community which means we are affected by trends and events that occur at the international level. At present, we need to consider the international threat of terrorism and those people who are pulled into groups that support extremist causes.

In Warwickshire, authorities and communities are working together to deliver the Government's [Prevent](#) Strategy. Prevent is one of four objectives which make up the Government's Strategy for Countering Terrorism – [CONTEST](#).

See also the school's **Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy**.

AIMS AND 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 our pupils are safe from harm. The principle objectives are that:

- All Staff and Directors will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- All Staff and Directors 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 AND 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.

PROCEDURES FOR REFERRALS

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at Willow Park School to date, 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).

Any colleague with concerns will speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (Kimberley Preston) or the Principal (Alex Smythe). The concern will be logged and a timeline started. Warwickshire County Council PREVENT Lead, Geoff Thomas, will be contacted.

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 practice.

The Designated Lead for Child Protection and Safeguarding (the Headteacher) 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.

If you have any worries or concerns, or would like more information on Prevent and the signs and behaviours, please contact Geoff Thomas Prevent Officer at Warwickshire County Council on geoffthomas@warwickshire.gov.uk

If you need to make a referral, please download the referral form here:

[Prevent Referral Form](#)

To understand the pathway process for Channel Panel referral system, click below:

[Warwickshire Channel Panel Pathway](#)

THE ROLE OF THE CURRICULUM

Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. We are committed to ensuring that our pupils are offered a broad and balanced curriculum that aims to prepare them for life in modern Britain. Children 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. Teaching the schools' core values alongside the fundamental British values supports quality teaching and learning, whilst making a positive contribution to the development of a fair, just and civil society. Children 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.

Role of Directors

The Directors (Proprietors) of our School will undertake appropriate training to ensure that they are clear about their role and the parameters of their responsibilities as Directors, including their statutory safeguarding duties. They will support the ethos and values of our school and will support the school in tackling extremism and radicalisation. In line with the provisions set out in the DfE guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' the Directors will challenge the school's senior leadership team (including the Principal) on the delivery of this policy and monitor its effectiveness.

Recruitment

The arrangements for recruiting all staff, permanent and volunteers, to our school will follow the safer recruitment best practice described in the school's Safeguarding Policy, including, but not limited to, ensuring that DBS checks are always made at the appropriate level, that references are always received and checked and that we complete and maintain a single central record of such vetting checks.

We will apply safer recruitment best practice principles and sound employment practice in general and in doing so will deny opportunities for inappropriate recruitment or advancement.

We will be alert to the possibility that persons may seek to gain positions within our school so as to unduly influence our schools character and ethos. We are aware that such persons seek to limit the opportunities for our pupils thereby rendering them vulnerable to extremist views and radicalisation as a consequence. Therefore, by adhering to safer recruitment best practice techniques and by ensuring that there is an ongoing culture of vigilance within our school and staff team we will minimise the opportunities for extremist views to prevail.

STAFF TRAINING

Through INSET opportunities in school (and online), we will ensure that our staff 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.

Links to other policies:

- Safeguarding and Child Protection
- Anti-bullying policy



- Behaviour policy
- E-Safefy Policy

Useful Numbers/Websites:

Prevent Duty Guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>

Warwickshire Prevent guidance and strategy: [Prevent in Warwickshire \(safeguardingwarwickshire.co.uk\)](https://www.preventinwarwickshire.co.uk)

Channel Guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/channel-guidance>

Advice to Parents and Carers

Equality Statement

At Willow Park School, we actively seek to encourage equity and equality through our teaching and our employment practices. As such, we seek to advance the equality of opportunity between people who share any of the following characteristics:

- age
- disability
- gender reassignment
- being married or in a civil partnership
- being pregnant or on maternity leave
- race including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin
- religion or belief
- sex
- sexual orientation

The use of stereotypes under any of the above headings will always be challenged.

Inclusion

Our school is an inclusive school. We aim to make all pupils feel included in all our activities. We try to make all our teaching fully inclusive. We recognise the entitlement of all pupils to a balanced, broadly-based curriculum. We have systems in place for early identification of barriers to their learning and participation so that they can engage in school activities with all other pupils. We acknowledge the need for high expectations for and of all children.