**Extremism Policy and Procedures**

**Blakehill Primary School**



**Together We Can**



1



|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Headteacher** | **Chair of Governors** | **Review Dates** |
|  |  | Last Review: January 2025 |
| Lisa Keighley  | Philip Cavalier-Lumley | Next Review: January 2026 |

**Statement of intent**

Blakehill Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare, both physical and emotional, of every pupil both inside and outside of the school premises.

This policy sets out a clear and consistent framework for delivering this promise, in line with safeguarding legislation and statutory guidance.

It will be achieved by:

* Creating a culture of safer recruitment by adopting procedures that help deter, reject or identify people who might pose a risk to children.
* Educating pupils on how to keep safe and to recognise behaviour that is unacceptable.
* Identifying and making provision for any pupil that has been subject to abuse.
* Ensuring that members of the governing body, the Headteacher and staff members understand their responsibilities under safeguarding legislation and statutory guidance, and are alert to the signs of child abuse and know to refer concerns to the designated safeguarding lead (DSL).
* Ensuring that the Headteacher ensures that any new staff members and volunteers are only appointed when all the appropriate checks have been satisfactorily completed.

The DSL is**: Catherine Scott.** In the absence of the DSL, all safeguarding matters will be dealt with by the deputy DSLs Helen Hall or the Headteacher, Lisa Keighley.

**1. Policy**

At Blakehill Primary School, all staff and pupils 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, beliefs and cultural heritages.

Blakehill Primary School creates a secure and safe environment that is committed to promoting the welfare of all its pupils. As a school we recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation is as important as safeguarding against any other vulnerability. In formulating this policy, we have taken account of the guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) who has called for all public bodies to make explicit their preventative measures to minimise the threat of extremism in their setting.

This policy provides advice and clear guidance in order to ensure all staff, volunteers and other personnel within the school are aware of the risks associated with and what happens if this policy is breached.

**2. Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all personnel at the school are fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalisation; that they overcome any professional disbelief that such issues will not happen at Blakehill and ensure that we work alongside other professional bodies and agencies to ensure that our pupils are safe from harm, and from undue influences in conflict with this policy.

**3. Scope**

This policy includes all staff (including permanent and temporary) as well as contractors, pupils, Governors and any person working or connected to the school.

**4. Principles**

Our role, as a school, is outlined more specifically in the DCSF document ‘Learning together to be safe: A toolkit to help schools contribute to the prevention of violent extremism.’ Primarily our work will be concerned with PREVENTION and is outlined more specifically in the DCSF document ‘Learning together to be safe: A toolkit to help schools contribute to the prevention of violent extremism.’

It is impossible to eliminate risks completely. It is essential, therefore, through the provision of good education, that we build pupils’ awareness of these risks. Our aim is to build pupil confidence and understanding to seek advice to be able to deal with any risks in an appropriate manner.

Governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non‐teaching staff demonstrate an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school.

**Pupils**

* are encouraged to adopt and live the key “British Values” of tolerance, respect, understanding, compassion and harmonious living
* are helped and supported to understand the importance of democracy and freedom of speech, through the assemblies and through the elected School Council members. (Social, emotional aspects of learning)
* are taught how to keep themselves safe, in school and when using the internet
* participate in local community events so that they appreciate and value their neighbours and friends, including those who may not share their faith background
* wellbeing, confidence and resilience is promoted through our planned curriculum and out of hours learning opportunities
* are supported in making good choices from a very young age, so they understand the impact and consequences of their actions on others.

**5. Responsibilities**

**The Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputy Safeguarding Leads**

Blakehill Primary School has a Designated Safeguarding Lead and two Deputy Safeguarding Leads who are responsible for reviewing policies and follow up on any safeguarding incidents. They are responsible for monitoring and reviewing CPOMs, developing safeguarding action plans where necessary, prompting/taking action, reviewing progress made and communicating to relevant parties.

 **Governors are responsible for:**

The school governors are responsible for the approval of this policy for reviewing the effectiveness of the policy within school. This will generally be carried out by the Link Governor for Safeguarding who works alongside the DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead).

**The DSL Link Governor is responsible for:**

* Attending Safeguarding meetings held each term
* Monitoring Safeguarding incidents and logs
* Reporting and updating the full governing body on a regular basis.

**The Head Teacher and Senior Leadership Team**

The role and responsibilities of the Headteacher and Senior Leadership team includes:

* The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring the safety (including e-safety) of all members of the school community. The day-to-day responsibility is delegated to the DSL and deputy DSL.
* Ensuring the DSL and deputy DSL receives suitable and relevant continued professional development to enable them to carry out their duties as well as train other colleagues as and when appropriate.
* Awareness of the procedures to be followed in the event of a serious safeguarding incident involving or alleging extremism*.*

**Teaching and Support Staff**

Teaching and Support staff are responsible for:

* Keeping up to date and aware of any Extremism matters and current *Safeguarding* *Policy and Procedures* through staff meetings and training sessions
* Understand the process for reporting Extremism incidents within school including the recording the incident in the safeguarding log
* Report any suspicions, issues or problem to the Senior Leadership Team for potential investigation
* Ensure Extremism issues are embedded in all aspects of the curriculum
* Ensure that e-safety lessons are planned and taught every half term. Lessons should be age appropriate or reflect the needs of the age group being taught.
* Information is appropriately shared via newsletters and letters.

**6. Procedures**

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 promotion or advancement of an ideology based on violence, hatred or intolerance, that aims to:

1. negate or destroy the fundamental rights and freedoms of others; or
2. undermine, overturn or replace the UK’s system of liberal parliamentary democracy and democratic rights; or
3. intentionally create a permissive environment for others to achieve the results in (1) or (2).

The Governing Body has a zero-tolerance approach to radicalisation and extremist behaviour. We rely on our strong values to steer our work and ensure the pastoral care of our pupils protects them from exposure to negative influences.

**Recognising Signs**

We need to be vigilant to recognising signs of children’s behaviour – some examples:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * Family upheaval
* Anger
* A natural leader
* Absence
* Socially excluded (wanting to belong)
* Wanting to be respected
* Family don’t want them
* Don’t fit in
* Sense of debt / guilty
* Lack of concentration
* Attention seeking
* Wanting lots of attention
* New friends
 | * Religion seeking
* Loss
* Peer pressure
* Self-esteem / lack of worth
* Propaganda – access to internet
* Fear
* Dis-satisfaction with government / mis-guided
* Acting out of character
* Isolating themselves
* Emotional
* Using inappropriate language
* New possessions
 |

The above list is not exhaustive.

**Procedure for Referrals:**

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not been commonplace to date, it is important for everyone to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about 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 and all concerns that may arise, to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

**Pupil Education**

Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. Children are encouraged to express themselves through discussions, debates and consultations. The R.E, PHSCE (Personal, Social, Citizenship and Health Education), and SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) provision is embedded across the curriculum, and underpins the ethos of the school. Children learn about other faiths and visit places of worship and are taught about how to stay safe when using the Internet.

In the event of suspected extremist behaviour, the following procedure should be followed:

* All incidents of extremist behaviour will be reported directly to the Designated Safeguarding Lead, the deputy DSLs and members of the SLT and/or they will also be notified.
* All incidents will be fully investigated and recorded and records will be kept in line with procedures for any other safeguarding incident.
* Parents/carers will be contacted and the incident discussed in detail, aiming to identify motivating factors, any changes in circumstances at home, parental views of the incident and to assess whether the incident is serious enough to warrant a further referral.
* A note of this meeting is kept alongside the initial referral on CPOMs.
* The SLT follow-up any referrals for a period of four weeks after the incident to assess whether there is a change in behaviour and/or attitude. A further meeting with parents would be held if there is not a significant positive change in behaviour.

If deemed necessary, serious incidents will be discussed and referred to Children’s Services.

In the event of a referral relating to serious concerns about potential radicalisation or extremism, the school will also contact West Yorkshire Police Counter Terrorism Unit (CTU) on the hotline is **0800 789 321**

**7. Monitoring and Review**

The approval, monitoring and review of this policy is the responsibility of the Governing Body.

Review of this policy will take place on an annual basis or more regularly if there are any significant developments in extremism or/and new threats or incidents have taken place.

**8. Distribution**

This policy will be available on the Blakehill Primary School website or via the School Office.

**9. Contacts**

Please contact a member of the Governing body or the Headteacher if you require support or guidance on this policy.

**10. Cross Referencing**

This policy refers to the following policies:

*Child Protection Policy*

*Anti-Bullying Policy*

*Behaviour Policy*

*Safeguarding Policy*

**11. Appendices**