

Azhar Academy Primary School recognises that it has a duty of care towards its pupils and that safeguarding **against** extreme radicalisation that may leave them vulnerable to violent or any form of extremism is one of those duties.

Our School values freedom of speech and the expression of beliefs / ideology as fundamental rights underpinning our society's values. Both pupils and teachers have the right to speak freely and voice their opinions. However, freedom comes with responsibility and free speech that is designed to manipulate the vulnerable or that leads to violence and harm of others goes against the moral principles in which freedom of speech is valued. Free speech is not an unqualified privilege; it is subject to laws and policies governing equality, human rights, community safety and community cohesion.

AAGS is fully committed to providing a secure environment for pupils, where children feel safe and are kept safe. All adults at the school recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility irrespective of the role they undertake or whether their role has direct contact or responsibility for children or not.

This Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy is one element within our overall school arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in line with our statutory duties set out at S157 of the Education Act 2002. We have a duty to prepare our pupils for life in multi-cultural modern Britain and to keep them safe. Everyone in our school has the right to learn and work in safety. We will not tolerate bullying of any kind and will challenge derogatory language and behaviour towards others.

## **Related policies include:**

- Behaviour Policy
- E-Safety /Acceptable and Responsible Internet Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Keeping children in safe guidance 2016
- Acceptable and Responsible Internet Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Whistleblowing Policy

## **Statutory Duties**

The duty to prevent children and young people being radicalised is set out in the following documents:

- Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2016

- Prevent Duty Guidance 2015
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015

## **Non-statutory Guidance**

- Promoting fundamental British Values as part of SMSC in schools: DfE Departmental advice for maintained schools 2014

## **Aims and Principles**

This policy aims to make clear that:

- Violent extremism is not part of the Islamic faith
- Islam teaches moderation, tolerance and respect.
- There is no place for extremists in the school including expression of extremist views, vocal or active, which are opposed to fundamental British values
- Protect all pupils from harm and to ensure that they are taught in a way that is consistent with the law and the British values of tolerance, democracy and liberty.
- Address both Awareness of Prevent and the risks it is intended to.
- Enable pupils to explore issues like terrorism and the use of violence in a considered and informed way.
- Facilitate understanding of wider issues within the context of learning about the values on which our society is founded and our system of democratic government.
- Make pupils aware about extreme views and about those who hold them and why these are islamically wrong.

## **School Ethos and Practice**

When operating this Policy, the school uses the following accepted Governmental definition of extremism which 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; and/or calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas’.*

Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

There is no place for extremist views of any kind in our school, whether from internal sources – pupils, staff or governors – or external sources – school community, external agencies or individuals. Our pupils see our school as a safe place where they can explore controversial issues safely and where our teachers encourage and facilitate this – we have a duty to ensure this happens.

As a school we recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes for children and so should be addressed as a safeguarding concern as set out in this Policy. We also recognise that if we fail to challenge extremist views we are failing to protect our pupils.

Extremists of all persuasions aim to develop destructive relationships between different communities by promoting division, fear and mistrust of others based on ignorance or prejudice and thereby limiting the life chances of young people. Education is a powerful weapon against this; equipping young people with the knowledge, skills and critical thinking, to challenge and debate in an informed way.

Therefore, the school will provide a broad and balanced curriculum, delivered by skilled professionals, so that our pupils are enriched, understand and become tolerant of difference and diversity and also to ensure that they thrive, feel valued and not marginalized.

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

### *Role of the Governors*

It is the role of Governors to:

- Ensure that the school meets its statutory duties with regard to preventing radicalisation
- Challenge the school's senior management team on the delivery of this policy and monitor its effectiveness, in line with the provisions set out in the DfE guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2015.
- Ensure that there is a link governor who will liaise with the Headteacher and other staff about issues to do with protecting pupils from radicalisation
- Review this policy annually in the autumn term of each academic year. Governors may, however, amend and adopt any amendments outside of this timeframe in accordance with any new legislation or guidance.

Governors will undertake annual training to ensure that they are clear about their role and the parameters of their responsibilities as Governors, including their statutory safeguarding duties.

### *Role of the Headteacher*

It is the role of the Headteacher to:

- Ensure that the school and its staff respond to preventing radicalisation on a day-to-day basis
- Ensure that the school curriculum addresses the issues involved in radicalisation
- Ensure that staff conduct is consistent with preventing radicalisation

### *Role of Designated Lead*

It is the role of the designate safeguarding lead to:

- Ensure that staff understand the issues of radicalisation, that they are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns
- Receive safeguarding concerns about pupils who may be vulnerable to the risk of radicalisation or are showing signs of radicalisation
- Make referrals to appropriate agencies with regard to concerns about radicalisation

- Liaise with partners, including the Local Authority and police
- Report to Governors on these matters

### *Role of Staff*

It is the role of staff to understand the issues of radicalisation, that they are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns.

- Ensure that teachers do not use teaching materials which may encourage intolerance
- Ensure pupils are not actively encouraged by teachers or visitors to the school to support extremist views of any form.
- Ensure that all of our staff members are equipped to recognise extremism and are skilled and confident enough to challenge it.
- Provide regular staff training, including newly appointed staff when undergoing induction on the practice of this policy within the school
- Regularly monitor staff conduct and where necessary, i.e. in extreme cases where it is felt that the staff is a cause for concern, the school will contact the relevant authorities (central Prevent Team, local Police enforcement, etc) for advice on the matter.

## **Recognising Extremism**

There are a number of behaviours which may indicate a child is at risk of being radicalised or exposed to extreme views. These include:

- Showing sympathy for extremist cause
- Making remarks or comments about spending time in the company of other suspected extremists
- Out of character changes in dress, behaviour and peer relationships, (there are powerful narratives, programmes and networks that young people can come across online, so involvement with particular groups may not be apparent)
- Possession of materials or symbols associated with an extremist cause
- Attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others
- Communications with others that suggest identification with a group, cause or ideology
- Secretive behaviour
- Intolerance of difference, including faith, culture, gender, race or sexuality
- Graffiti, artwork or writing that displays extremist themes
- Using insulting or derogatory names for another group
- Increase in prejudice-related incidents committed by that person – these may include:
  - Physical or verbal assault
  - Provocative behaviour

- Damage to property
- Derogatory name calling
- Possession of prejudice-related materials
- Prejudice related ridicule or name calling
- Inappropriate forms of address
- Refusal to co-operate
- Attempts to recruit to prejudice-related organisations
- Condoning or supporting violence towards others, especially to other faiths or cultures

Any prejudice, discrimination or extremist views, including derogatory language, displayed by pupils or staff will always be challenged and where appropriate dealt with in line with our Behaviour and Discipline Policy for pupils and the Code of Conduct for staff.

## **Staff Training**

We will ensure that all of our staff are equipped to recognise extremism and radicalisation and are skilled and confident enough to challenge it. All staff receives annual safeguarding training and refresher training at least twice a year.

## **Referral Process**

Our school is required to identify a Prevent Single Point of Contact (SPOC) who will be the lead within the organisation for safeguarding in relation to protecting individuals from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism. The SPOC for Azhar Academy Primary School is Mrs Rookshana Adam (also the Designated Safeguarding Lead) and, in her absence, Ms Anila Khan (the Deputy Designated lead).

Staff and visitors to the school must refer all concerns about pupils who show signs of vulnerability, radicalisation or at risk from extremism to the SPOC, Mrs Rookshana Adam or Ms Anila Khan using the usual methods for reporting other safeguarding concerns.

We will help support pupils who may be vulnerable to such influences as part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities and where there are significant concerns the SPOC/Designated Safeguarding Lead will make a referral to the appropriate body.

## **Curriculum**

We are committed to ensuring our pupils are offered a broad and balanced curriculum that aims to prepare them for life in modern Britain. We encourage our pupils to be inquisitive learners who are open to new experiences and are tolerant of others.

Our school ethos supports the development of the whole child as a reflective learner within a safe, respectful learning environment. 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 just, fair and civil society.

We will also work with local partners, families and communities in our efforts to challenge extremist views and to assist in the broadening of our pupil's experiences and horizons.

### **Visitors and the Use of School Premises**

The school encourages the use of external agencies or speakers to enrich the experiences of our pupils. They are made aware of our safeguarding and child protection policies on arrival at the school and given information about what to do if they are concerned about any aspect of child welfare.

We undertake due diligence to ensure that visiting speakers are appropriate. They will be subject to safeguarding checks and photo identification. Speakers will be supervised at all times and **never** allowed to speak to children without a member of staff being present.

Our school will assess the suitability and effectiveness of input from external agencies or individuals to ensure that:

- Any messages communicated to pupils are consistent with the ethos of the school and do not marginalise any communities, groups or individuals
- Any messages do not seek to glorify criminal activity or violent extremism or seek to radicalise pupils through extreme or narrow views of faith, religion or culture or other ideologies
- Activities are properly embedded in the curriculum and clearly mapped to schemes of work to avoid contradictory messages or duplication
- Activities are matched to the needs of pupils
- Activities are carefully evaluated by the school to ensure that they are effective.

**Staff must not invite speakers into school without first obtaining the permission of the Head teacher.**

### **Internet Safety**

The Internet provides pupils with access to a wide range of content, some of which is harmful. Extremists use the Internet, including social media, to share their messages. The filtering systems used in our school blocks inappropriate content, including extremist content.

If staff or pupils find unblocked extremist content they must report it immediately to the Designated or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Pupils will receive E-Safety training regularly throughout the school year.

## **Whistleblowing**

Where there are concerns of extremism or radicalisation pupils and staff will be encouraged to make use of our internal systems to whistle blow or raise any issue in confidence. Please refer to the separate Whistleblowing Policy.

## **Recruitment**

The arrangements for recruiting all staff to our school will follow government guidance on safer recruitment best practice in education settings, 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.

## **Policy Adoption, Monitoring and Review**

This policy will be reviewed annually as part of the overall Child Protection and Safeguarding policy review prior to the start of a new academic year, but may adopt any amendments outside of this timeframe in accordance with any new legislation or guidance.

This Policy will also be made available to parents/carers via the school's website.

## OVERVIEW

WHEN	WHERE	ACTIVITY DETAILS	MONITORED BY
Throughout the school life	Teach Islamic values of Forgiveness, Helpfulness, Generosity, Respect, Humility, Neighbourliness	Across the curriculum	SLT/Taarbiyaah Coordinator subject teachers/ visitors and speakers
Throughout the school life	Teach about Prophet's (saw) love for all humankind giving specific authentic i. Examples of Qur'anic text ii. Examples from Hadith iii. Examples from the life of Sahabas (ra)	Across the curriculum PSHE Assemblies	SLT & Taarbiyaah Coordinator
	Engagement with Other faith groups	Interfaith week/programme including of visits to places of worship and school twinning, with local schools from other faiths	SLT RE Teacher
	Teaching of British values	Citizenship / school activities i.e school council and annual mock general election	SLT/Teachers/& Taarbiyaah Coordinator
	Workshops in PSHE involving the local Prevent unit	Teachers Citizenship Teacher	SLT
	Projects Fund Raising – to instil culture of caring for others Cross-Curricular Annual Day - to appreciate others' cultures Living Islam –increase awareness and remove misconceptions Feed the homeless  Sponsor orphans across the world	Various activity days at school  Involve other schools – activity day- 3FF  Open Day – involve neighbours and local community  Soup kitchens, charity organisations Sponsorship towards	All staff/SLT & Students including Parents

## Useful Links

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/550511/Keeping\\_children\\_safe\\_in\\_education.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/550511/Keeping_children_safe_in_education.pdf)

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/445977/3799\\_Revised\\_Prevent\\_Duty\\_Guidance\\_England\\_Wales\\_V2-Interactive.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/445977/3799_Revised_Prevent_Duty_Guidance_England_Wales_V2-Interactive.pdf)

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