



# Hebburn Comprehensive School

## Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy

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### Statement of Intent

Hebburn Comprehensive School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all students and staff. We recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation and extremism is an essential part of our duty to protect children. This policy sets out our approach to preventing extremism and radicalisation in accordance with the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 and the statutory Prevent Duty Guidance for schools.

We are a community that embraces tolerance, respect, and democracy, and we actively promote fundamental British values. We will not tolerate any expression of extremist views or ideologies that are contrary to our school values and the ethos of respect for others.

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### Definitions

**Extremism:** 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.

**Radicalisation:** The process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies.

**Terrorism:** An action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person or people, damages property, or seriously interferes with or disrupts an electronic system, and is intended to influence the government or intimidate the public.

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### Legislative and Policy Framework

This policy is based on the following guidance and legislation:

- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (Section 26)
  - Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales (2023)
  - Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSiE 2023)
  - Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)
  - The Children Act 1989 & 2004
  - Education Act 2002 – the duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils
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### Aims and Objectives of the Policy

- To ensure all staff understand their responsibilities under the Prevent Duty.
- To identify students at risk of being drawn into terrorism or extremism and intervene appropriately.
- To build pupils' resilience to radicalisation through curriculum and pastoral provision.
- To promote mutual respect, tolerance, and democratic values.

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## **Roles and Responsibilities**

The Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) are responsible for:

- Leading the school's Prevent strategy.
- Ensuring staff receive regular training.
- Coordinating referrals and working with external partners (e.g. Prevent teams, Channel Panel, police).

All Staff must:

- Complete Prevent awareness training.
- Recognise indicators of radicalisation or extremism.
- Report concerns promptly to the DSL.

Governors are responsible for:

- Ensuring the school complies with the Prevent Duty.
- Monitoring the implementation of this policy.

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## **Risk Assessment and Partnership Working**

The school carries out an annual risk assessment to identify any local or school-specific threats.

This includes consideration of:

- Local context and community tensions
- Online behaviour and internet usage
- Use of premises by external agencies

We work closely with:

- The Local Authority Prevent Lead
- South Tyneside Safeguarding Children Partnership
- Northumbria Police Prevent Team
- Channel Panel (for individual referrals)

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## **Curriculum and Pastoral Support**

Through PSHE, RE, assemblies, and tutor programmes, students learn about:

- British values and democratic participation
- Online safety and digital resilience
- Critical thinking and challenging extremism
- Respecting diversity and difference
- Staff use these opportunities to encourage discussion, raise awareness, and promote tolerance.

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## Use of School Premises and Visitors

- All visitors, including speakers, are subject to safeguarding checks.
- External groups using the school site are required to comply with school policies and values.
- Any material or behaviour deemed extremist will be challenged and reported.

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## Referral and Intervention

Concerns about a student being at risk of radicalisation must be reported immediately to the DSL. The DSL will:

- Assess the risk using local Prevent referral processes.
- Liaise with statutory agencies where appropriate.
- Refer to Channel if there is a significant risk of radicalisation.

All safeguarding concerns are recorded and managed in line with the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

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## Training and Awareness

All staff receive Prevent awareness training and through regular updates.

Governors are provided with Prevent briefings and training.

The DSL and deputies complete advanced safeguarding and Prevent training.

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## Monitoring and Review

This policy is reviewed annually, or sooner in response to national updates, changes in legislation, or local guidance. Implementation is monitored by the Designated Safeguarding Lead and reported to the Governing Board.

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**Designated Safeguarding Lead:** Mrs S Burdis

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### Signed:

**Head Teacher:**



Mr D R Thompson

**Chair of Governors:**



Mr G Thompson

**Ratification Date:**

02/10/2025

**Date of Next Review:**

Autumn Term 2027