



THE NELSON THOMLINSON SCHOOL

PREVENTING EXTREMISM POLICY

Signed by Headmaster:

Signed by Chair of Governors:

Reviewed by Behaviour, Safeguarding & Wellbeing Committee:

19 November 2020

Next review:

November 2022

PREVENTING EXTREMISM POLICY STATEMENT

The Nelson Thomlinson School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its students. As a school we recognise that safeguarding against extremism 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.

LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES

The policy statement links to the following policies:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding
- Anti-bullying policy
- Behaviour policy

AIMS AND PRINCIPLES

The main aims of this policy statement are to ensure that staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about extremism; that they overcome professional disbelief that such issues will not happen in the school and ensure that everyone works alongside other professional bodies and agencies to ensure that our students are safe from harm.

The principle objectives are that:

- All governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff will have an understanding of what extremism is and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- All governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff will know what the school policy is on extremism and will follow the policy when issues arise.
- All parents and students will know that the school has policies in place to keep students safe from harm and that the school regularly reviews its systems to ensure they are appropriate and effective.

DEFINITIONS AND INDICATORS

Extremism is defined as the act of holding of extreme political or religious views; fanaticism, *'vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect tolerance of different faith and beliefs; and/or calls for the death of members in our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas'*

We recognise that we are well placed to be able to identify safeguarding issues linked to the dangers of extremist views.

The objectives are that:

- All governors, teachers and non-teaching staff will have an understanding of what extremism is and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- All governors, teachers and non-teaching staff will know what the school policy is on tackling extremism.
- All members of staff are able to identify children who may be vulnerable to extremism and respond by following whole school safeguarding procedures with immediate effect.
- All pupils will understand the dangers of extremism and exposure to extremist views; learning about key British values to build resilience against these views and knowing what to do if they experience them.
- All parents/carers 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.

PROCEDURES FOR REFERRALS

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 extremism 'could not happen here' and to refer any concerns through the appropriate channels (currently via the Child Protection/Safeguarding Co-ordinator). Instances whereby the pupils is under the age of 18 are referred to the Safeguarding Hub and those of people above the age of 18 are reported directly to Cumbria Police.

THE ROLE OF THE CURRICULUM

Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. Pupils 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 RE, PSHRE and Citizenship provision is embedded across the curriculum and underpins the ethos of the school.

It is recognised that pupils with low aspirations are more vulnerable to extremism and therefore we strive to equip our pupils with confidence, self-belief, respect and tolerance as well as setting high standards and expectations for themselves.

Pupils 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.

STAFF TRAINING

Through INSET opportunities in school, we will ensure that our staff are fully aware of the threats, risks and vulnerabilities that are linked to extremism; are aware of the process of extremism and how this might be identified early on.