

NORTH RIDGE HIGH SPECIALIST SUPPORT SCHOOL

POLICY AND GUIDANCE ON THE PREVENT DUTY

Written January 2016

Agreed by Governors January 2016

Due to be reviewed January 2017

The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 and the new Prevent Duty places a statutory responsibility on specified authorities, including schools to 'have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism'. Having due regard means that authorities should place an appropriate amount of weight on the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism when they consider all the factors relevant to how they carry out their usual functions. Terrorism is an action that endangers or causes serious violence damage or disruption and is intended to influence the Government or to intimidate the public and is made with the intention of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause. Ofsted's revised common inspection framework from September 1st 2015, makes specific reference to the need to have safeguarding arrangements to promote pupils' welfare and prevent radicalisation and extremism.

North Ridge values the fundamental rights of freedom of speech, expression of beliefs and ideology and tolerance of others which are the core values of our democratic society. However, all rights come with responsibilities and free speech or beliefs designed to manipulate the vulnerable or which advocate harm or hatred towards others will not be tolerated. North Ridge seeks to protect its pupils and staff from all messages and forms of violent extremism and ideologies including those linked to, but not restricted, to the following: Far Right/Neo Nazi, White Supremacist ideology, Islamist ideology, Irish Nationalist and Loyalist paramilitary groups and extremist Animal Rights groups.

At North Ridge we take the possible threat of radicalisation seriously. We aim to safeguard our pupils and their families by educating and if necessary raising any concerns we may have around behaviour or activity.

Approaches to educating our pupils and their families:

- As part of our curriculum including PSHCE and Citizenship lessons we cover British values, E safety, rights and responsibilities as well as the importance of valuing and respecting each other regardless of culture, religion or nationality.
- Targeted work with small groups of pupils who we feel may be more vulnerable/ at risk of exploitation

- We offer Parent workshops on E safety, behaviour management and generally keeping children safe.

We will take the following action if we have cause for concern:

- The 'Single Point Of Contact' at North Ridge is the Head Teacher Bernice Kostick and in her absence the Deputy Head Teacher Gill Foord
- Staff at North Ridge will be vigilant in recognising the possible signs of radicalisation.
- Concerns will be directly referred to the Contact centre or Early help hub.

If there is an imminent concern of danger then the Head Teacher will contact the police.

- If school staff become aware of the pupil making a journey to a country where there is a war zone then school staff will arrange to meet with the family to check information and could request to see the travel documentation.
- If school staff become aware that the pupil is planning to travel without their family then this will be raised with the family to ensure the pupil is kept safe.

Training for staff

- Staff awareness will be raised around the issues of radicalisation at the termly safeguarding staff meeting
- Staff awareness of radicalisation is addressed in their online safeguarding training programme
- The head Teacher has attended training and briefing sessions on policy and practice in school.
- Several staff have attended the training on holding difficult conversations.