



PREVENT POLICY

Newnham Croft Primary School

Date of Policy: June 2024, Teaching and Learning Committee

Member of Staff Responsible: Edward Ferguson and Katrina Markham are the designated personnel for Prevent and Safeguarding

INTRODUCTION

Newnham Croft Primary School is fully aware of its responsibility under the Prevent Duty 2015

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/439598/prevent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf

Recognises that its responsibilities to prevent and protect children from extremism, fits within its duty of child protection and safeguarding.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/447595/KCSIE_July_2015.pdf

And shares information with parents about the Prevent duty through the publication of an online statement (see Appendix) and publication of this policy.

DEFINITION

Extremism can be defined as “holding of extreme opinions: the holding of extreme political or religious views or the taking of extreme actions on the basis of those views”.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/263181/ETF_FIN_AL.pdf

STRATEGIES FOR PREVENTING EXTREMISM

Through Newnham Croft’s written and unwritten curriculum the school promotes community cohesion as well as British Values. <http://www.communitycohesioncc.org.uk/docs/280.pdf>

According to Ofsted, 'fundamental British values' are:

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty and mutual respect
- tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Promoting fundamental British Values as part of SMSC in schools Departmental Advice 2014

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/380595/SMSC_Guidance_Maintained_Schools.pdf

The Office for Security & Counter Terrorism works to counter the threat from terrorism and their work is detailed in the counter terrorism strategy CONTEST.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/97995/strategy-contest.pdf

This strategy is based on four areas of work:

- **Pursue** To stop terrorist attacks
- **Prevent** To stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism
- **Protect** To strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack
- **Prepare** To mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack

AIMS

At Newnham Croft Primary School we follow the principles outlined in the DCSF toolkit which seeks to:

- **Raise awareness** within school of the threat from violent extremist groups and the risks for young people.
- Provide **information** about what can cause violent extremism, about preventative actions taking place locally and nationally and where we can get additional information and advice.
- Help schools understand the **positive contribution** they can make to empower young people to create communities that are more resilient to extremism and **protecting the wellbeing** of particular pupils or groups who may be vulnerable to being drawn into violent extremist activity.
- Provide advice on **managing risks** and responding to incidents locally, nationally or internationally that might have an impact on the school community.

Newnham Croft Primary School will use these principles to guide our work in all areas including building on our work in:

- Promoting good outcomes for all pupils including their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- Promoting pupil happiness, wellbeing, sense of security, equalities and community cohesion
- Building the resilience of the school, working with partners, to prevent pupils becoming the victims or causes of harm
- Working with other agencies including the education child protection service, social care, the police, parents, and community and religious leaders to build community links and enhance positive networks

TRAINING

Edward Ferguson is the designated personnel for PREVENT.

School staff have been briefed on the PREVENT Duty as have the Governing Body and a copy of this policy is displayed on the school website.

RISK ASSESSING

Newnham Croft is committed to safeguarding, is compliant with its duties including prevent, positively promotes the well-being of all its pupils and expects all staff and volunteers to share in this commitment.

Newnham Croft is a happy school with an open door policy and excellent methods of communication. The School is proud of its multi-lingual and multicultural school community and has good relations with parents and the community. The school risk assesses for a number of purposes including staff recruitment and would be as vigilant as possible regarding any pupil at risk to grooming or extremism.

USE OF ONLINE TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Newnham Croft Primary School is aware of the risk of use of social media for online radicalisation.

Newnham Croft Primary School promotes a positive and protective school ethos. The Headteacher is the designated safeguarding lead and there is a deputy DSL (currently, Mrs Markham, the Year 1/2 teacher. All staff receive Child Protection training.

The school has Acceptable Use of IT Policy and during the school day restricts access to external sites that may be unsafe or unsuitable. The school uses Google Classroom to enable pupils to interact with each other using a safe moderated platform. Pupils receive regular updates on how to keep themselves safe online. Pupils are reminded of the importance of speaking to a trusted adult either in school or at home if they feel vulnerable or unsafe. This would include any concerns they have about images, messages or contacts online. Pupils are also taught to speak to staff or to use the CEOPS button if they feel they are at risk.

PARTNERSHIPS

Newnham Croft Primary School recognises that any attempt to counter extremism and prevent radicalisation cannot be achieved by one organisation alone but relies on the sharing of information and productive partnership working. In upholding the Prevent duty Newnham Croft Primary works with a number of partners, including

- The Education Child Protection Service
- The Police and PCSOs
- The Locality Team
- Social Care
- Community and religious leaders
- Parents and the wider community
- Other Educational Organisations

BUILDING RESILIENCE

“Schools can build pupils’ resilience to radicalisation by providing a safe environment for debating controversial issues and helping them to understand how they can influence and participate in decision-making.”

Newnham Croft develops pupils’ resilience in a number of different ways across the curriculum including through the PHSE programme of study, whole School and class assemblies, educational visits, drama workshops, debating, philosophy, and citizenship activities such as school council.

RAISING A CONCERN

If a member of the school community, a child, a member of staff or a member of the school community raises a concern that relates to the Prevent Duty e.g. a child at risk of radicalisation, or exhibiting extremist the school will take this matter seriously and will follow Child Protection procedures.

1. Speak to the Designated Personnel for Child Protection and Safeguarding
2. Take advice as to whether a Referral Form needs to be completed.
3. Send to MASH for assessment
4. Subject to MASH assessment Inter-agency procedures may follow including Cambridgeshire Schools do not need to create a new document to log a Prevent concern; they can use a referral to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Children’s Service.
5. Escalation to Channel

Whilst Newnham Croft Primary School is fully compliant in the Prevent duty, and recognises the important role it has to play in this respect, the school will be thoughtful and proportionate in its response to ensure that no individual or group feels needlessly disenfranchised or unfairly discriminated.

Paramount to Newnham Croft Primary's vision is to promote a positive, inclusive, caring and optimistic school culture, where every child and adult feels safe, happy, and valued as a unique individual

Newnham Croft Primary School

The Prevent Duty & Promoting British Values

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From 1st July 2015 all schools, registered early years childcare providers and registered later years childcare providers are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, in the exercise of their functions, to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. This duty is known as the Prevent duty.

We take Safeguarding very seriously, therefore to ensure that we adhere to and achieve the Prevent duty we will;

- Our Designated Person for Child Protection has undertaken Prevent Lead training (March 2023) so that they can offer advice and support to other members of staff.
- Provide appropriate training for all staff. Part of this training will enable staff to identify children who may be at risk of radicalisation
- We will build the children’s resilience to radicalisation by promoting fundamental British values and enabling them to challenge extremist views (for early years providers the statutory framework for the EYFS sets standards for learning, development and care for children from 0-5, thereby assisting their personal, social and emotional development and understanding of the world)
- We will assess the risk, by means of a formal risk assessment, of children being drawn into terrorism, including support for extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology
- We will ensure that our staff understand the risks so that they can respond in an appropriate and proportionate way
- We will be aware of the online risk of radicalisation through the use of social media and the internet
- As with managing other safeguarding risks, our staff will be alert to changes in children’s behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection (children at risk of radicalisation may display different signs or seek to hide their views). The Key Person approach means we already know our key children well and so we will notice any changes in behaviour, demeanour or personality quickly
- We will not carry out unnecessary intrusion into family life but we will take action when we observe behaviour of concern. The key person approach means that we already have a rapport with our families so we will notice any changes in behaviour, demeanour or personality quickly
- We will build up an effective engagement with parents/carers and families. (This is important as they are in a key position to spot signs of radicalisation)
- We will assist and advise families who raise concerns with us. It is important to assist and advise families who raise concerns and be able to point them to the right support mechanisms
- We will work in partnership with our LSCB for guidance and support.

For more information please see our Prevent Action plan and Safeguarding and Child Protection policy.