



**Huish Episcopi Academy**

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

# Extremism Policy

## **Introduction**

This policy formalises existing practice in relation to preventing radicalisation and extremism, providing a clear framework for our response in line with statutory duties. This policy should be read in conjunction with the Safeguarding Policy, Anti-Bullying Policy and Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024.

This policy has been updated in line with the *Prevent Duty Guidance for England & Wales* (Home Office, Section 29 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015), which was revised and came into force on 31 December 2023. All staff should have regard to this guidance when carrying out duties under this policy.

## **Staff**

All members of staff are required to through the Teachers' Standards:

- 'Showing tolerance of and respect for the rights of others'
- 'Not undermining fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs'
- 'Ensuring that personal beliefs are not expressed in ways which exploit pupils' vulnerability or might lead them to break the law'

Teachers must not promote partisan political views in the teaching of any subject and are required to ensure that whenever political issues are brought to the attention of students a balanced presentation of the opposing views are also explained.

The staff and Governors aspire to ensure that all our students, irrespective of prior-attainment or ability, achieve their potential in full. Any teacher failing to comply with these requirements would be liable to disciplinary action.

## **PREVENT**

The Prevent Leads at Huish Episcopi Academy are Christopher Daniel and Amy Houghton-Barnes.

All staff will complete Prevent training as part of their induction, with refresher training provided annually. Designated staff (DSL, DDSL, Prevent Lead) will undertake enhanced training to develop deeper understanding of extremist ideologies. Training is delivered through the National College platform and records are maintained and reviewed by HR.

## **REPORTING AND REFERRALS**

Staff must treat any concerns regarding possible radicalisation as safeguarding concerns and follow the Academy's safeguarding procedures:

- Concerns should be recorded on Arbor and reported immediately to the DSL or DDSL.
- If there is an immediate/significant risk, staff must follow local procedures and submit a referral form directly to Children's Social Care (CSC) or contact the police.
- Information may be shared without consent if there is a lawful basis, for example, where a child is at immediate risk.

## **Key Contacts**

- National Police Prevent Advice Line: **0800 011 3764**  
[channelsw@avonandsomerset.pnn.police.uk](mailto:channelsw@avonandsomerset.pnn.police.uk)
- Department for Education Helpline: **020 7340 7264** | Email:  
[counter.extremism@education.gov.uk](mailto:counter.extremism@education.gov.uk)

## **RISK ASSESSMENT**

The Academy recognises that students may be at risk of being drawn into terrorism or extremism. To mitigate this risk:

- Regular Prevent risk assessments are undertaken in consultation with local safeguarding partners (e.g., Police, Local Authority).
- Risk assessments consider local threats, ideological influences, online risks, and external speakers.
- Findings are reviewed annually or sooner if new risks emerge, and are reported to the Principal, DSL/DDSL, and the safeguarding governor.

## **THE CURRICULUM AND COMBATTING EXTREMISM**

The core values of the Academy inform the curriculum, as it does all aspects of our work. The values of Respect, Ambition and Resilience we expect all stakeholders to uphold throughout their dealings at the Academy.

We endeavour to promote personal responsibility and understanding the differences between right and wrong. We also promote respect and the understanding of the need for rules.

The Academy takes every opportunity for the development in the personal and spiritual aspects of the students so enabling them to become positive and emotionally resilient adults with the knowledge and confidence to challenge ideas that they do not agree with. Some of the most valuable work in combatting extremism at Huish Episcopi Academy is carried out in structured PSHE sessions and through the R.E. curriculum. We try to ensure that tolerance and understanding are championed through learning about diversity. The Academy aims to be a safe place for students to share their views within the acknowledged respectful culture of the learning environment.

## **THE USE OF INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA**

It is strictly forbidden to use the Academy website, IT facilities or other elements of the information management systems or processes for the promotion, planning or execution of violent extremism in the name of ideology or belief.

The Academy reserves the right to exercise control over all activities on its IT facilities and networks, including the monitoring of systems and electronic communications and access to external electronic resources.

The Academy recognises its obligations under legislation relating to the prevention of terrorism, in particular the requirement to respond within two working days to requests from the Police to remove or amend any statement published on the Academy hosted website that may appear to encourage or promote terrorism.

## **FREEDOM OF SPEECH WITHIN THE ACADEMY**

The Academy is committed to the principle of free speech. Therefore, so far as it is reasonably practicable, access to the Academy premises is not denied to any student or employee or any individual or body of persons invited to the Academy by a student or member of staff on any grounds related to the beliefs or views of the student, employee or invited persons. Nor is access denied due to the policies or objectives of that body.

Where the expression of such beliefs, views, policies or objectives are unlawful and where it is deemed these might be expressed on the Academy site, the Academy reserve the right for these beliefs not to be expressed on the Academy site.

The Academy recognises the needs to balance the rights of the freedom of speech with the provisions of the Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006 which outlaws the use of threatening words or behaviour, or the display of any threatening written material, with the intent to stir up religious hatred.

## **REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS**

The Academy is committed to identifying and addressing any behaviour or activity covered by this policy at the earliest opportunity. All staff, governors, volunteers, and others connected with the Academy have a duty to report concerns.

- Concerns relating to children must always be treated as safeguarding matters and reported in line with the Academy's Safeguarding Policy.
- The Academy's procedures reflect the principles of the Whistleblowing Policy, ensuring that concerns can be raised without fear of reprisal.
- Appropriate action will be taken in consultation with the relevant internal and external authorities.
- If a concern involves the Principal, it must be reported directly to the Chair of the School Improvement Board (Colin Cattnach) and the United Learning Regional Director (Stuart Ingram) in the first instance.

## **POLICY REVIEW**

This policy will be reviewed annually, or earlier if required in response to specific incidents, emerging risks, or changes to statutory or local safeguarding guidance.

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| <b>Reviewed by:</b> Christopher Daniel, Vice Principal and Amy Houghton-Barnes, Assistant Principal | September 2025 |
| <b>Ratified:</b>  | September 2025 |
| <b>To be reviewed:</b>  | September 2026 |