



Huish Episcopi Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Extremism Policy

Dealing with Extremism Policy

Introduction

This policy is a summary of our existing policy and practice rather than a new departure. However, it has been formalised into a policy to make clear our response to the threat of radicalisation and extremism. This policy should be read in conjunction with the Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy, Anti-Bullying Policy and Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023.

Staff

All members of staff are made aware through the process of Professional Development & Review of their fundamental responsibilities in this area. The Performance Management reviewers evaluate their reviewees against the Standards for Teachers, including these elements in Part 2 of the 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 ability and regardless of anyone’s doubts, achieve their potential in full. Any teacher failing to comply with these requirements would be liable to disciplinary action.

PREVENT

All staff will complete the PREVENT training (Prevent Lead – Christopher Daniel DSL) as part of their induction into the Academy and a record of this will be held by HR.

Staff should follow the Academy normal referral processes (see Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy) when there are concerns about children who may be at risk of being drawn into terrorism. This may include a referral to Channel or children’s social care depending on the level of risk. However, if staff have concerns that there is an immediate/significant risk of a child being drawn into terrorism submit a referral form to MASH or call them directly. Further guidance can be found in the contact list below

National Police Prevent advice line

TEL: 0800 0113764

EMAIL: PreventReferrals@Dorset.pnn.police.uk

Department for Education

NON-EMERGENCY NUMBER: 020 7340 7264

EMAIL: counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk

The Academy, in recognition that students may be at risk of being drawn into terrorism or other forms of extremism, carries out appropriate risk assessments (following consultation with local partners, such as the Police) of the potential risk in the local area. Such risk assessments are discussed with the Principal, DSL or DDSL and governor responsible for safeguarding to ensure the Academies safeguarding arrangements are sufficiently robust to help prevent and protect children from being drawn into terrorism and are regularly revised.

The Curriculum and Combating Extremism.

The core values of the Academy informs the curriculum, as it does all aspects of our work. The values include the following – integrity, compassion and courage which 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 Ethics lessons. 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 the Internet and other 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 premises

The Academy are 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 recognises the importance of identifying and taking action to prevent or remove behaviour or activity described in this policy. All staff and other individuals connected with the Academy play a vital role in reporting concerns relating to the behaviour described in this policy. The procedures are based upon the principles of the Academy Whistleblowing Policy. Where children are concerned a disclosure should be treated as a child protection issue and the appropriate steps taken.

If a concern is raised suitable action will be taken in consultation with the relevant authorities both within and outside the Academy. If the disclosure involves the Principal, then the individual is required to contact the Chair of Governors in the first instance.

Policy Review

This policy is to be reviewed annually or sooner if necessary in the light of specific events or relevant statutory changes.

Reviewed by: Christopher Daniel, Vice Principal and DSL
Ratified by Governors:
To be reviewed:

September 2023
September 2023
September 2024