Prevent Policy

2022-2024

Version:	September 2022	
Ratified by the **Local Governing Body**		
Signed by the **Local Governing Body**	Date: 05.02.2024	
To be reviewed every 2 years	Date: 05.02.2026	

Contents

1.   **Introduction**

The Warwickshire Academy Prevent Policy will promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. This is in accordance with the requirements of section 78 of the Education Act 2002, in their provision of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development (SMSC). Actively promoting the values means challenging any opinions or behaviours in our Academy that are contrary to fundamental British values. This policy is not targeted to any specific group but rather to any extreme and radical views.

2.   **Statement of Intent**

Protecting pupils from the risk of radicalisation is part of The Warwickshire Academy's wider safeguarding duties (please refer to the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy section 21 Appendix 4: Specific Safeguarding Issues Preventing Radicalisation). We will actively assess the risk of pupils being drawn into terrorism. Staff will be alert to changes in pupils' behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Staff will use their professional judgement to identify pupils who may be at risk of radicalisation and act appropriately – which may include making a referral to the Channel programme through the Academy SPOC (single point of contact - DSL). Staff could also raise concerns about members of staff or parents who are sharing extreme views with other members of staff or pupils. The Academy will work with the Local Children's Safeguarding Board as appropriate.

3.   **Definitions of Radicalisation and Working to Prevent them.**

Radicalisation: refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

Extremism: is vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, such as democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. This also includes calling for the death of members of the armed forces.

Terrorism: is an action that:
- Endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people.

- Causes serious damage to property.

- Seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system.

The use or threat of terrorism must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious, or ideological cause.

Academies have a duty to prevent children from being drawn into terrorism. The DSL will undertake Prevent awareness training and make sure that staff have access to appropriate training to equip them to identify children at risk.

We will assess the risk of children in our Academy being drawn into terrorism. This assessment will be based on an understanding of the potential risk in our local area, in collaboration with our local safeguarding partners and local police force.

We will ensure that suitable internet filtering is in place and equip our pupils to stay safe online at Academy and at home.

There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to an extremist ideology. Radicalisation can occur quickly or over a long period. Staff will be alert to changes in pupils' behaviour.

The government website Educate Against Hate and charity NSPCC say that signs that a pupil is being radicalised can include:

- Refusal to engage with, or becoming abusive to, peers who are different from themselves.

- Becoming susceptible to conspiracy theories and feelings of persecution.

- Changes in friendship groups and appearance.

- Rejecting activities they used to enjoy.

- Converting to a new religion.

- Isolating themselves from family and friends.

- Talking as if from a scripted speech.

- An unwillingness or inability to discuss their views.

- A sudden disrespectful attitude towards others.

- Increased levels of anger.

- Increased secretiveness, especially around internet use.

- Expressions of sympathy for extremist ideologies and groups, or justification of their actions.

- Accessing extremist material online, including on Facebook or Twitter.

- Possessing extremist literature.

- Being in contact with extremist recruiters and joining, or seeking to join, extremist organisations.

Children who are at risk of radicalisation may have low self-esteem or be victims of bullying or discrimination. It is important to note that these signs can also be part of normal teenage behaviour – staff should have confidence in their instincts and seek advice if something feels wrong.

4. Training

The Designated Safeguarding Lead will undertake Warwickshire's Prevent training in order to be able to provide advice and support to other staff on how to protect pupils against the risk of radicalisation. The Designated Safeguarding Lead will hold formal training sessions with all members of staff to ensure they are aware of the risk indicators and their duties regarding preventing radicalisation.

All new members of staff will have a session on the Prevent basics as well as refreshers or update for whole staff. The SPOC will be the DSL.

It is the responsibility of all staff to develop their PREVENT awareness and seek clarification on the topic. All new staff will receive safeguarding training with a specific element covering the essential points from the Prevent duty.

5. Risk indicators

Indicators of an identity crisis:

- Distancing themselves from their cultural/religious heritage.

- Uncomfortable with their place in society.

- Changing style of dress or personal experience to accord with the group.

- Conversation increasingly focussed on a particular (potentially extremist) ideology.

- Possession of materials or symbols associated with an extremist cause.

Indicators of a personal crisis:

- Family tensions

- A sense of isolation

- Low self-esteem

- Disassociation from existing friendship groups

- Loss of interest in activities which they previously engaged with Searching for answers to questions about identify, faith and belonging.

Indicators of vulnerability through personal circumstances:

- Migration

- Local community tensions

- Events affecting their country or region of origin.

- Alienation from UK values

- A sense of grievance triggered by personal experience of racism or discrimination.

Indicators of vulnerability through unmet aspirations:

- Perceptions of injustice

- Feelings of failure

- Rejection of civic life

Other indicators:

- Using derogatory language about a particular group

- Inappropriate forms of address

- Possession of prejudice related material

- Property damage

- Refusal to cooperate with teachers/adults' requests.

- Condoning or supporting engagement with extremist ideologies or groups.

6. **Making a Judgement**

   When making a judgement, staff will ask themselves the following questions:

   - Does the pupil have access to extremist influences?

   - Does the pupil access the internet for the purposes of extremist activities (e.g., using closed network groups, accessing, or distributing extremist material, contacting covertly using Skype, etc.)?

   - Is there a reason to believe that the pupil has been, or is likely to be, involved with extremist organisations?

   - Is the pupil known to possess or actively seek extremist literature/other media likely to incite racial or religious hatred?

   - Does the pupil sympathise with or support illegal/illicit groups?

   - Does the pupils support groups link to extremist activity?

   - Has the pupil encountered peer, social, family or faith group rejection?

   - Is there evidence of extremist ideological, political, or religious influence on the pupil?

   - Have international events in areas of conflict and civil unrest had a noticeable impact on the pupil?

   - Has there been a significant shift in the pupil's outward appearance that suggests a new social, political, or religious influence?

   - Has the pupil come into conflict with family over religious beliefs, lifestyle, or dress choices?

   - Does the pupil vocally support terrorist attacks, either verbally or in their written work?

   - Has the pupil witnessed or been the victim of racial or religious hate crime?

   - Is there a pattern of regular or extended travel within the UK?

   - Has the pupil travelled for extended periods of time to international locations?

   - Does the pupil have experience of poverty, disadvantage, discrimination, or social exclusion?

- Does the pupil display a lack of affinity or understanding for others?

- Is the pupil the victim of social isolation?

- Does the pupil demonstrate a simplistic or flawed understanding of religion or politics?

- Is the pupil a foreign national, refugee or awaiting a decision on their/their family's immigration status?

- Does the pupil have insecure, conflicted, or absent family relationships?

- Has the pupil experienced any trauma in their lives, particularly trauma associated with war or sectarian conflict?

- Is there evidence that a significant adult or other person in the pupil's life has extremist views or sympathies?

Critical indicators include where the pupil is:

- In contact with extremist recruiters

- Articulating support for extremist causes or leaders.

- Accessing extremist websites.

- Possessing extremist literature.

- Using extremist narratives and a global ideology to explain personal disadvantage.

- Justifying the use of violence to solve societal issues.

- Joining extremist organisations.

- Making significant changes to their appearance and/or behaviour

7. **Referrals at The Warwickshire Academy**

We are committed to protecting our pupils from radicalisation through a process of early intervention. All staff are encouraged to raise any concerns they might have about a pupil or an adult with the designated safeguarding lead (SPOC- Stacey Warrington) The safeguarding lead will then assess the situation and decide whether further action is required. If so, they will then discuss any concerns with the Headteacher and decide the best course of action regarding a referral to external agencies. Any decisions made will be made on a case-by-case basis and staff must be made aware that if they disagree with a decision not to refer, they are entitled to make a referral themselves where they

harbour genuine concerns that a pupil is at risk using the Channel contact (To contact your local co-ordinator - Email: Prevent@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk or Call: 0121 251 0239).

8. **Preventing Radicalisation through Learning and Sharing the Academy**

   Values with Staff and our Community

   In addition to a vigilant programme of awareness of risk indicators and referrals where necessary, The Warwickshire Academy is dedicated to protecting our pupils by engaging them in activities which help them to be more resilient to radical influences. The following exercises are part of the Academy's strategy to encourage tolerance and moderation of views in all pupils. The Academy will also engage with the community to share our values beyond our Academy and reach partners and members of the public in contact with our pupils.

9. **The Warwickshire Academy Prevent**

The Warwickshire Academy Prevent

TWA SPOC- Stacey Warrington
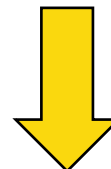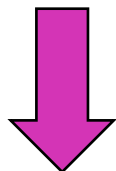
IMPACT ON STAFF

Key Issues:
Working together in multicultural environments (Faith)
Promoting freedom of speech.
Building up awareness of local, national, and international issues.

Strategies:
WRAP training.
Departmental / Class insets including key issues discussions.
Policy on tackling violent extremism.

IMPACT ON PUPILS

Key Issues:
Human Rights in curriculum and beyond.
Building up awareness of local, national and international issues.
Social and emotional learning
Embracing Diversity
Understanding rights and responsibilities.
Importance of freedom of speech.
Different types of bullying.
E-Safeguarding (danger of misuse of internet)
Embracing British Values.

Strategies:
Key issues impacting on curriculum where appropriate (RE, PSHE)
Impact on curriculum evidence building.
Tutor time focus on news locally, nationally, and internationally.
Cultural and Diversity celebration days.

IMPACT ON COMMUNITY

Key Issues:
Promoting Academy values beyond the classroom.
Developing links with local faith communities.
Support community cohesion.

Strategies:
WWRAP training.
Departmental insets including key issues discussions.
Policy on tackling Violent Extremism.

10.   **British Values**

The government originally set out its definition of British values in their 2011 Prevent Strategy and the Prime Minister has reiterated these this year. The British Values are defined as:

- Democracy

- The rule of law

- Individual liberty

- Mutual respect

- Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

The Warwickshire Academy are committed to actively promoting British values and this forms part of our wider work in Academy with pupils in relation to their Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education (SMSC) but also across our entire curriculum and extra-curricular programmes. Members of staff have the duty to use every opportunity to share these values across any subjects or activities. The British values are integral to our Academy vision and ethos and are reinforced regularly in a variety of ways.

11.   **External Speakers**

The Warwickshire Academy will aim to provide a safe space for students to engage with a variety of issues and hear and debate different perspectives through the use of external speakers where possible. The Warwickshire Academy has the responsibility to ensure that the people they invite to speak are suitable and that all safeguarding procedures are followed. When inviting speakers, staff are reminded of the following:

- The statutory guidance on the Prevent duty makes clear that as part of our safeguarding policy, we should 'set out clear protocols for ensuring that any visiting speakers whether invited by staff, parents or pupils themselves are suitable and appropriately supervised.'

When hosting a speaker (either during or outside of Academy hours), our Academy wish to consider carrying out the following research before agreeing to host:

- The topic of the event (including the purpose of the speaker's visit and the appropriateness for the audience).

- The speaker's reputation and who may be prompted to attend, particularly whether the speaker or members from the organisation they represent have a reputation for causing disruption at venues.

- Any risks to the Academy's reputation and ethos.

- The status of the speaker, including their previous comments, by carrying out checks on internet search engines and across social media sites. When carrying out internet searches, it is good practice to look beyond the first page of results.

- Whether you consider there to be potential for speakers to use language intended to stir up hatred or incite violence.

- If necessary, the SPOC could seek for the views of the Local Authority Prevent Officer listed below.

12.   Useful guidance links

Warwickshire Contact and guidance information.
A local action plan has been developed to implement the Prevent Strategy in Warwickshire and in particular to implement the new Prevent and Channel legislation. The action plan is owned by the multi-agency Warwickshire Prevent Working Group which reports into the Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board. To access this plan and further advice please visit: Prevent – Safe In Warwickshire

Local Authority Prevent Officer – Geoff Thomas please phone: 01926 412016. If you are unable to make contact with the Prevent Officer please phone 01926 412338 to contact the administrator for the Community Safety Team who will be able to help you.

Channel Duty Guidance Protecting vulnerable people from being drawn into terrorism:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/425189/Channel_Duty_Guidance_April_2015.pdf
Prevent for Schools:
http://www.preventforschools.org/
DFE guidance Prevent:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/439598/prevent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf/
Channel West midland Police:
https://www.west-midlands.police.uk/docs/keeping-you-safe/behind-the-badge/tackling-terrorism/DL-Channel%20lft_Channel-lft-DL_final.pdf

13.   Changes

Description	Date	Page	Section
no changes part of review cycle	n/a	n/a	n/a