

Carnforth Community Primary School

PREVENT Policy

Updated October 2026

Review October 2027

Preventing Radicalisation and Extremism Policy (Prevent Duty)

Rationale

At Carnforth Community Primary School, we take our responsibility to safeguard children, young people and families from violent extremism very seriously. We value and champion freedom of speech and the expression of beliefs and ideology as fundamental rights, underpinning our school and society's values.

We are committed to providing a secure environment for children, where children feel safe and are kept safe. All adults at the school recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility irrespective of the role they undertake or whether their role has direct contact or responsibility for children or not.

Aims

• To provide a safe and secure environment free from the threat of radicalisation and extremism.

• To ensure staff are well trained and equipped to identify signs of children at risk from radicalization and extremism.

• To put in place robust systems for reporting and dealing with concerns about children who are vulnerable and at risk.

Implementation

The definition of extremism we are using for this policy is:

'Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs; and/or calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas'.

At Carnforth Community Primary School, every member of staff is very clear that there is no place for extremist views of any nature in our school, whether from the children, staff or governors or external groups such as the school community, external agencies or individuals. We believe that every child must see school as a safe place where they can explore controversial issues safely and where our teachers encourage and facilitate the safe and open discussion of values and beliefs.

At Carnforth Community Primary School, we recognise the dangers, extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences, can pose to children resulting in children not achieving their potential both academically and socially. Any failure to protect children from extremist views is a failure of our duty to safeguard and protect children from harm.

Recognising the Indicators

At Carnforth Community Primary School, we understand that children who become involved in extremist actions come from a range of backgrounds.

Children may become vulnerable to radicalisation through a range of social, personal and environmental factors.

Indicators of vulnerability to radicalisation and extremism include:

• Children seen as having an identity crisis and may have become distanced from their cultural or religious heritage and is not sure of their place in society.

• Children who are having a personal crisis for example tensions within the family or those who have a sense of isolation and have become distanced from their friends.

• Children who have not met or lived up to their aspirations may have a sense of injustice or feel like a failure in society.

• Children whose personal circumstances may make them vulnerable such as community tensions or events in the child's country of origin.

• Involvement with criminal groups.

• Children with SEND may experience social interaction difficulties.

• Being in contact with known extremist recruiters.

• Accessing violent extremist websites, especially those with a social networking element.

• Possessing or accessing violent extremist literature.

• Justifying the use of violence to solve issues.

• Joining or seeking to join extremist organisations.

• Significant changes to appearance and / or behaviour.

• Experiencing a high level of social isolation resulting in issues of identity crisis and / or personal crisis.

Every member of staff will be equipped, skilled and confident to identify and challenge extremism.

Prejudice of any kind and extremist views will always be challenged by staff and dealt with in accordance to the Behaviour Policy.

The lead staff within school for safeguarding in relation to protecting individuals from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism are the designated safeguarding team:

Sarah Hudd and Megan Rae

If a member of staff has concerns they must immediately speak to the Headteacher or deputy DSL who will provide support, intervention and assistance for the child.

Where necessary the school will seek external support from the Local Authority and/or local partnership structures working to prevent extremism.

School will closely follow the locally agreed procedure as set out by the Local Safeguarding Children Board for safeguarding individuals vulnerable to extremism and radicalisation.

Principles and Approach to Teaching

• At Carnforth Community Primary School, we will eradicate the myths and assumptions that can lead to some young people becoming alienated and disempowered.

• The school will teach this through PSHE, RE lessons and in assemblies. In addition we will adopt the methods outlined in the Government's guidance 'Teaching approaches that help build resilience to extremism among young people' DfE 2011.

• The school will set children targets to build a sense of ownership and to create a safe environment for discussions between staff and children. This will help to build resilience in children and improve their skills for collaborative working.

• At Carnforth Community Primary School, we will ensure that our approach to teaching enables our children to build up resilience to extremism and give children a positive sense of identity.

• Through our teaching of British values we will promote the values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs.

• At the core of our work are the values of respect for one another and to tolerance of difference.

• We will also work in partnership with our local community and families to challenge extremist views.

External Support

• School commissions carefully vetted external agencies and speakers to enrich the experiences of our children and help prevent and tackle extremist views.

- We will ensure that any messages communicated to children are consistent with the ethos of the school and do not marginalise any communities, groups or individuals.
- All activities are carefully planned to meet the needs of the children and are continually monitored and evaluated for effectiveness.