



APPLE BLOSSOM KINDERGARTEN

Prevent Duty Policy & Procedure Apple Blossom Kindergarten/Manchester Steiner Ltd.

Written by Tom Pope August 2015

Reviewed: September 2018 by Kate Gray

Next Review: September 2019 by Nikita Johnson

This policy is prepared using the following publications:

DFE "The Prevent Duty - Departmental advice for schools & childcare providers. June 2015" DFE "Keeping children safe in schools July 2015"

HM Gov. Channel Guidance - Preventing vulnerable people from being drawn into terrorism. 2015

POLICY STATEMENT

From 1st July 2015 all schools, registered early years childcare providers and registered later years childcare providers (referred to in this advice as '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. It applies to a wide range of public-facing bodies.

What is Radicalism?

Radicalism refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism.

Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is seen as part of Apple Blossom Kindergarten wider safeguarding duties, and is similar in nature to protecting children from other forms of harm and abuse. During the process of radicalisation it is possible to intervene to prevent vulnerable people being radicalised

There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to an extremist ideology. It can happen in many different ways and settings.

Specific background factors may contribute to vulnerability which are often combined with specific influences such as family, friends or online, and with specific needs for which an extremist or terrorist group may appear to provide an answer.

The internet and the use of social media in particular has become a major factor in the radicalisation of young people.

What is Extremism

Extremism 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. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas.

Constant Practice and Procedure

At Apple Blossom Kindergarten it is essential that staff are able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation, and know what to do when they are identified. Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation should be seen as part of schools' and childcare providers' wider safeguarding duties, and is similar in nature to protecting children from other harms (e.g. drugs, gangs, neglect, sexual exploitation), whether these come from within their family or are the product of outside influences.

We can also build pupils' resilience to radicalisation by promoting fundamental British values and enabling them to challenge extremist views.

All staff are instructed to challenge extremist and radical views.

It is important to emphasise that the Prevent duty is not intended to stop pupils debating controversial issues. On the contrary, in the older classes we will always provide a safe space in which children, young people and staff can understand the risks associated with terrorism and develop the knowledge and skills to be able to challenge extremist arguments.

In the School we can emphasise this in daily work such as assisting the children's personal, social and emotional development and understanding of the world. The values of care, respect and kindness underpin all we do, say and sing. Modelling and imitation by the staff are key to our practice as a school. We try to ensure all adults and children act peaceably towards one another.

All staff are DBS checked with a view to a s128 direction. Also the school will check any QTS employees via the government secure access portal.

Risk assessment

All the kindergarten staff, particularly the staff who work directly with the children are expected to assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorism, including support for extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology.

This means being able to demonstrate both a general understanding of the risks affecting children and young people in the area and a specific understanding of how to identify individual children who may be at risk of radicalisation and what to do to support them.

As with managing other safeguarding risks, staff should be alert to changes in children's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection.

Staff should use their professional judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately which may include making a referral to the **Channel program** (see appendix one for further information on Channel).

Procedure for reporting concerns

If a member of staff in a kindergarten/nursery has a concern about a particular pupil or family they should follow the setting's normal safeguarding procedures, including discussing with the kindergarten's designated safeguarding lead, who will, where deemed necessary, with children's social care.

You can also contact your local police force or dial 101 (the non-emergency number). They can talk to you in confidence about your concerns and help you gain access to support and advice. Also, they can advise if this would be a case for Channel.

The Department for Education has dedicated a telephone helpline (020 7340 7264) to enable staff and governors to raise concerns relating to extremism directly.

Concerns can also be raised by email to counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk.

Appendix One:

Channel

Channel is a programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. It provides a mechanism for schools to make referrals if they are concerned that an individual might be vulnerable to radicalisation. An individual's engagement with the programme is entirely voluntary at all stages.

Section 36 of the CTSA 2015 places a duty on local authorities to ensure Channel panels are in place. The panel must be chaired by the local authority and include the police for the relevant local authority area. Following a referral the panel will assess the extent to which identified individuals are vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism, and, where considered appropriate and necessary consent is obtained, arrange for support to be provided to those individuals.

Channel is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/channel-guidance>

Appendix Two:

Nikita Johnson – Designated Person Safeguarding/Child Protection Officer

Kate Gray – Designated Director Safeguarding/Child Protection

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This policy will be reviewed and revised by the Child Protection Officer/nursery manager with a Director on an annual basis.

Endorsement

Full endorsement to this policy is given by:

Name: Kate Gray

Position: Director Manchester Steiner Ltd.

Date: August 2015

Related policies: Safeguarding and Child Protection Policies