



Preventing Radicalisation and Prevent Policy

Updated: 04/03/21

Preventing Radicalisation Policy

Background

This 'Preventing Radicalisation Policy' is part of our commitment to keeping children safe. Over the last few years, global events have led to a growth of extremist viewpoints, including advocacy of violent extremism. We recognise UK2Learn has a part to play in educating children and young people about extremism, and recognising when pupils start to become radicalised. In March 2015, new statutory duties were placed on schools by the Counter Terrorism and Security Act (2015) which means they must work to prevent children being drawn into extremism.

Safeguarding children from all risks of harm is an important part of a UK2Learn's work and protecting them from extremism is one aspect of that.

Ethos

At UK2Learn we ensure that through our vision, values, rules, and care we promote tolerance and respect for all cultures, faiths and lifestyles. The Designated Safeguarding Lead, Alex Mackie, also ensures that this ethos is reflected and implemented effectively in UK2Learn policy and practice and that there are effective risk assessments in place to safeguard and promote students' welfare. We have a duty to prepare our children for life in modern Britain and to keep them safe. Guardianship students at UK2Learn have the right to live and learn in safety. We do not tolerate bullying of any kind and will challenge derogatory language and behaviour towards others.

Concerns

Should any students, parents, staff, host families or volunteers have any concerns they should contact Alex Mackie as soon as possible on +44 7917 820033 or amackie@uk2learn.com

Statutory Duties

The duty to prevent children and young people being radicalised is set out in the following documents.

- Counter Terrorism and Security Act (2015)
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2015/6/contents/enacted>
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (2015)
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/954314/Keeping_children_safe_in_education_2020_-_Update_-_January_2021.pdf
- The Prevent Duty (June 2015)
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/439598/prevent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015)
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/942454/Working_together_to_safeguard_children_inter_agency_guidance.pdf

Related Policies

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Missing Child Policy
- Complaints Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Health and Safety Policy

Definitions

Extremism is defined in the 2011 Prevent strategy as 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.

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

British Values are democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Roles and Responsibilities

UK2Learn has a nominated person who will liaise with the student's school, host family and other staff about issues to do with protecting children from radicalisation.

Role of Designated Safeguarding Lead

It is the role of the designated safeguarding lead to:

- ensure that staff and host families understand the issues of radicalisation, are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns
- receive safeguarding concerns about children and young people who may be vulnerable to the risk of radicalisation or are showing signs of radicalisation
- make referrals to appropriate agencies with regard to concerns about radicalisation
- liaise with partners, including the local authority and the police

Role of UK2Learn staff, host families and partner agencies

It is the role of staff, host families and partner agencies to understand the issues of radicalisation, are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns.

Internet Safety

The internet provides children and young people with access to a wide-range of content, some of which is harmful. Extremists use the internet, including social media, to share their messages. The filtering systems used in our school blocks inappropriate content, including extremist content.

Where staff, host families and partner agencies find unblocked extremist content they must report it to the DSL.

We are aware that children and young people have access to unfiltered internet when using their mobile phones and host families and UK2Learn staff are alert to the need for vigilance when pupils are using their phones.

Staff, host families and partner agencies know how to report internet content that is inappropriate or of concern.

Staff Training

Staff will be given training to help them understand the issues of radicalisation, are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns. This information also forms part of induction safeguarding training.

Safer Recruitment

We ensure that the staff we appoint are suitable, our recruitment procedures are rigorous and we follow the statutory guidance. Vetting and barring checks are undertaken on relevant people, including staff, host families and partner agencies.

Host Families and Partner agencies

Host Families and Partner agencies of UK2Learn are made aware of our safeguarding and child protection policies and are given information about what to do if they are concerned about any aspect of child welfare.

‘No platform for extremists’

UK2Learn does not enter into communication with individuals or organisations that are extremist in their views.

Signs of vulnerability

There are no known definitive indicators that a young person is vulnerable to radicalisation, but there are number of signs that together increase the risk. Signs of vulnerability include:

- underachievement
- being in possession of extremist literature
- poverty
- social exclusion
- traumatic events
- global or national events
- religious conversion
- change in behaviour
- extremist influences
- conflict with family over lifestyle
- confused identify
- victim or witness to race or hate crimes
- rejection by peers, family, social groups or faith

Recognising Extremism

Early indicators of radicalisation or extremism may include:

- showing sympathy for extremist causes
- glorifying violence, especially to other faiths or cultures
- making remarks or comments about being at extremist events or rallies outside school
- evidence of possessing illegal or extremist literature
- advocating messages similar to illegal organisations or other extremist groups
- out of character changes in dress, behaviour and peer relationships (but there are also very powerful narratives, programmes and networks that young people can come across online so involvement with particular groups may not be apparent.)
- secretive behaviour
- online searches or sharing extremist messages or social profiles
- intolerance of difference, including faith, culture, gender, race or sexuality
- graffiti, art work or writing that displays extremist themes
- attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others
- verbalising anti-Western or anti-British views
- advocating violence towards others

Referral Process

Staff, students and host families of UK2Learn must refer all concerns about children and young people who show signs of vulnerability or radicalisation to the Designated Safeguarding Lead using the usual methods for reporting other safeguarding concerns.

When there are significant concerns about a pupil, the Designated Safeguarding Lead will make a referral to the appropriate body.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be monitored annually by the Designated Safeguarding Lead. This is not a statutory policy and will be reviewed at an appropriate time.

This Policy Review

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| Responsibility for handbook review: | Lucy Barton/Alex Mackie |