



**Krishna Avanti Primary School
Croydon Prevent Policy:
Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation**

(to be read in conjunction with the school's Safeguarding
Policy)

Policy Review

Date of Policy: May 2024

Policy review date: May 2025

Ratified by SLT

[The Prevent Strategy | Croydon Council](#)

1. POLICY STATEMENT

Krishna Avanti Croydon is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. Every member of staff recognises that safeguarding against radicalisation and extremism is no different to safeguarding against any other vulnerability in today's society. The Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation Policy sets out our beliefs, strategies and procedures to protect vulnerable individuals from being radicalised or exposed to extremist views, by identifying who they are, and promptly providing them with support.

2. LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES

This policy: Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation Policy links to the following School policies;

- *Equality Policy*
- *Anti-bullying Policy*
- *Behaviour Policy*
- *Online Safety Policy*
- *Safeguarding Policy*

The following national guidelines should also be read when working with this policy:

- *PREVENT Strategy HM Government*
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/439598/prevent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf
- *Keeping Children Safe in Education DfE 2020*
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/912592/Keeping_children_safe_in_education_Sep_2020.pdf
- *Working Together to Safeguard Children HM Government 2018*
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/729914/Working_Together_to_Safeguard_Children-2018.pdf
- *Protecting Vulnerable People From Being Drawn into Terrorism*
<https://www.croydon.gov.uk/sites/default/files/articles/downloads/Channel%20Duty%20Guidance%20April%202015.pdf>

3. AIMS AND PRINCIPLES

Krishna Avanti Primary School Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation Policy is intended to provide a framework for dealing with issues relating to vulnerability, radicalisation and exposure to extreme views. We recognise that we are well placed to be able to identify safeguarding issues and this policy clearly sets out how the school will deal with such incidents, and identifies how the curriculum and our ethos underpin our actions.

The main aims of this policy are to ensure that staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalisation; that they overcome professional disbelief that such issues will not happen here; and ensure that we work alongside other professional bodies and agencies to ensure that our pupils are safe from harm.

The objectives are that:

- All SSC members, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are, and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- All members of the SSC, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff will know what the school policy is on tackling extremism and radicalisation, and will follow the policy - swiftly when issues arise.
- All pupils will understand the dangers of radicalisation and exposure to extremist views, building resilience against these, and knowing what to do if they experience them.
- All parents/carers and pupils will know that the school has policies in place to keep pupils safe from harm, and that the school regularly reviews its systems to ensure they are appropriate and effective.

4. DEFINITIONS AND INDICATORS

Radicalisation is defined as the act or process of making a person more radical or favouring of extreme or fundamental changes in political, economic or social conditions, institutions or habits of the mind.

Extremism is defined as the holding of extreme political or religious views.

There are a number of behaviours, which may indicate a child is at risk of being radicalised or exposed to extreme views. These include:

- Spending increasing time in the company of other suspected extremists.
- Increased or excessive usage of internet.
- Changing their style of dress or personal appearance to accord with the group.
- Day-to-day behaviour becoming increasingly centred on an extremist ideology, group or cause.
- Loss of interest in other friends and activities not associated with the extremist ideology, group or cause.
- Possession of materials or symbols associated with an extremist cause.
- Attempts to recruit others to the group/cause.
- Communications with others that suggests identification with a group, cause or ideology.
- Using insulting or derogatory names for another group.
- Increase in prejudice-related incidents committed by that person – these may include:

Physical or verbal assault, provocative behaviour; damage to property, derogatory name calling; possession of prejudice-related materials; prejudice related ridicule or name calling; inappropriate forms of address; refusal to co-operate; attempts to recruit to prejudice-related organisations; or condoning or supporting violence towards others.

5. PROCEDURES FOR REFERRALS

It is important for all members of Krishna Avanti Primary School to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues which affect the local area and society in which we teach. Staff are reminded to suspend any 'professional disbelief' that instances of radicalisation 'could not happen here' and to be 'professionally inquisitive' where concerns arise, referring any concerns through the appropriate channels. (See appendix 1 – Dealing with referrals)

We believe that it is possible to intervene to protect people who are vulnerable. Early intervention is vital, and staff must be aware of the established processes for front line professionals to refer concerns about individuals and/or groups. We must have the confidence to challenge, the confidence to intervene and ensure that we have strong safeguarding practices based on the most up-to-date guidance and best practise.

All members of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) are trained as Designated Senior Leaders for Child Protection and Safeguarding, and will deal swiftly with any referrals made by staff or with concerns reported by staff.

The Head Teacher SLT will discuss the most appropriate course of action on a case-by-case basis and will decide when a referral to external agencies is needed (see Appendix 1 – Dealing with Referrals)

As with any child protection referral, staff must be made aware that if they do not agree with a decision not to refer, they can make the referral themselves (details of how to refer are displayed on safeguarding posters around the school and at the end of this policy).

LEADERS AND STAFF

The Head Teacher and all members of the SLT are the leaders for referrals relating to extremism and radicalisation. In the unlikely event that no SLT members and the Head Teacher are not available, all staff know the channels by which to make referrals via:

SPOC (Single Point of Contact):

For urgent child protection matters requiring immediate attention: Tel: 0208 255 2888

SPOC Professionals Consultation Line Tel: 0208 726 6464

Email SPOC referrals to: childreferrals@croydon.gov.uk

Staff will be fully briefed about what to do if they are concerned about the possibility of radicalisation relating to a pupil, or if they need to discuss specific children whom they consider to be vulnerable to radicalisation or extremist views.

SLT will work in conjunction with the Head Teacher and external agencies, to decide the best course of action to address concerns, which may arise.

Prejudicial behaviour can be a factor in radicalisation and extremism. With this in mind, Krishna Avanti Primary School has procedures for dealing with prejudicial behaviour, as outlined in the Behaviour Policy and our Equality Policy.

All staff at Krishna Avanti Primary School are aware that any concerns or indicators of the possibility of radicalisation relating to any pupil within the school are referred following guidance in the school's Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy.

THE ROLE OF THE CURRICULUM

Our curriculum is broad and balanced. It promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. Children are encouraged to share their views and recognise that they are entitled to have their own different beliefs, which should not be used to influence others.

Our PSHE provision is embedded across the curriculum. It directs our assemblies and underpins the ethos of the school. It is recognised that children with low aspirations are more vulnerable to radicalisation and therefore we strive to equip our pupils with confidence, self-belief, respect and tolerance, as well as setting high standards and expectations for themselves. (See PSHE Curriculum Overview on the school's website)

Children are regularly taught about how to stay safe when using the internet, and are encouraged to recognise that people are not always who they say they are online. They are taught to seek adult help if they are upset or concerned about anything they read or see on the Internet.

STAFF TRAINING

Through INSET opportunities in school, we will ensure that our staff are fully aware of the threats, risks and vulnerabilities that are linked to radicalisation; are aware of the process of radicalisation and how this might be identified early on, and are aware of how we can provide support as a school to ensure that our children are resilient and able to resist involvement in radical or extreme activities. All staff members are required to undertake Prevent Duty Training annually.

POLICY REVIEW

This policy: Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation Policy will be reviewed annually as part of the overall Child Protection and Safeguarding policy review.

Appendix 1:

Dealing with referrals:

Where a school has concerns that a young person might be considering extremist ideologies and/or may be radicalised and would benefit from specialist support to challenge extremist ideologies, or that a younger pupil may be at risk due to their parent's radicalisation, the school should make a referral to SPOC **using the SPOC Safeguarding Referral Form**: <https://my.croydon.gov.uk/MashReferrals>

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. Schools should always be a safe space for young people to explore new ideas and perspectives, and develop their critical thinking skills. Where there are concerns about radicalisation and a referral to Channel Panel is being considered the school should discuss these concerns internally and also consider external advice and guidance where necessary and appropriate. The school's designated safeguarding lead should be consulted for internal advice on making a referral.

Prior to making a referral the school may also speak to and get advice from their police schools officer (if they have one); the SPOC Professionals' Consultation Line; and/or Croydon's Prevent Co-ordinator (Haydar Muntadhar: email haydar.muntadhar@croydon.gov.uk; tel. 0208 726 6000 (ext. 62070))

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