

SWRAC

Prevent Policy

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Statement of intent

SWRAC recognises that students can be vulnerable to extremist ideology and radicalisation, and we are committed to protecting students from this risk as part of our safeguarding responsibilities.

Our commitment to safeguarding students against extremism, radicalisation and terrorism includes interventions and collaboration with other agencies including the police and the LA where appropriate and as required.

We support and will adhere to guidance from the DfE which requires schools and colleges to actively promote fundamental British values in order to enable students to challenge extremist views and ensure that students are encouraged to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance.

This policy relates to the potential radicalisation of students at our college. For guidance on specific terrorist incidents, please see our security and lockdown plan

1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Children Act 1989
- Education Act 1996

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- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Data Protection Act 2018
- UK GDPR
- DfE (2015) 'The Prevent duty'
- HM Government (2021) 'Revised Prevent duty guidance: for England and Wales'
- DfE (2022) 'Keeping children safe in education 2022'
- DfE (2018) 'Working Together to Safeguard Children'
- Home Office (2021) 'Channel Duty guidance: protecting people vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following policies:

- Security and Lockdown plan
- Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Online Safety Policy
- Equality and diversity policy
- Anti-Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy

2. Definitions

For the purpose of this policy:

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

Radicalisation – is defined as the process by which an individual or group comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups. .

Terrorism – is defined as violent threats or actions designed to influence government or intimidate the public with the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause. This includes endangering or causing serious violence to a person or people, serious damage to property, and seriously interfering or disrupting an electronic system.

3. Roles and responsibilities

The advisory board will be responsible for:

- Ensuring the appropriate measures are in place to protect students from radicalisation.
- Ensuring the Prevent duty is seen as part of SWRAC's wider safeguarding duties.

The Managing Director will be responsible for:

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- The overall implementation and management of this policy.
- Ensuring every staff member is familiar with the scope of this policy.
- Ensuring students are taught about British values through the curriculum.
- Ensuring SWRAC is a safe space in which students can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and extremism, and are able to challenge these ideas.
- Undertaking a risk assessment to determine whether students are at risk of being drawn into terrorism.
- Identifying extremist risks in the local area.
- Ensuring any visitors and speakers at SWRAC are appropriate and vetted prior to them having access to students.

The DSL, and any deputies, will be responsible for:

- Handling any referrals to the Channel programme and supporting staff who make referrals to Channel.
- Following up any referrals made to the Channel programme.
- Providing advice and support to staff on protecting students from the risk of radicalisation.
- Delivering staff training on the Prevent duty.
- Working with external agencies to support students at risk of being drawn into terrorism.
- Providing guidance to other staff members to help them support students at risk of being drawn into terrorism.
- Understanding local procedures for making a Prevent referral and making Prevent referrals where appropriate.
- Considering if it would be appropriate to share any information with a new school or college in advance of a student leaving, e.g. if the student is currently receiving support through the 'Channel' programme and the information would allow the new setting to have support in place for when the student arrives.

All staff members will be responsible for:

- Being alert to the risk factors of extremism and radicalisation and any changes in a student's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection.
- Raising any concerns with the DSL (or any deputies, in their absence).
- Notifying the DSL (or any deputies, in their absence) when they make any referrals to the Channel programme.
- Engaging in staff training on the Prevent duty.
- Using their professional judgement to identify students who may be at risk of radicalisation and acting proportionately.

4. Safeguarding from extremism

SWRAC protects the right to freedom of expression. This policy is not intended or designed to restrict or prevent legitimate and lawful congregation or debate.

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SWRAC has a dedicated DSL who deals with any incidents of extremism and/or terrorism within SWRAC community. As SWRAC's responsibility under law, we will do our utmost to safeguard our students from being drawn into extremism and terrorism.

SWRAC has strong relationships with our local safeguarding partners, and will involve them at the earliest opportunity if safeguarding issues arise.

SWRAC will encourage any student, parent, staff member or member of the wider school community to speak to the DSL if they have concerns about:

- Students becoming radicalised.
- Groups, clubs or societies with extremist or radical views.
- Friends and/or families of students becoming radicalised or involved in extremism.
- Students planning to visit known areas of conflict.
- Members of SWRAC and wider community attempting to draw young and/or vulnerable students into extremism.

Visitors and speakers coming into SWRAC will be vetted prior to them having access to students. All materials handed out to students, whether by teachers or visitors and speakers, will be checked by the headteacher.

5. Channel and Prevent

Channel, a key element of the Home Office's Prevent strategy, is a multi-agency approach to protect people at risk from radicalisation. SWRAC will work with the LA, local law enforcement, and religious and community leaders, to identify students vulnerable to radicalisation and to challenge extremism if it arises. This includes identifying students to whom any of the following criteria applies:

- Displaying feelings of grievance and injustice
- Feeling under threat
- Searching for identity, meaning and belonging
- Displaying a desire for status amongst their peers
- Displaying a desire for excitement and adventure
- Displaying a need to dominate and control others
- Displaying a susceptibility to indoctrination
- Displaying a radical desire for political or moral change
- Appearing susceptible to opportunistic involvement
- Having family or friends involved in extremism
- Appearing susceptible to being influenced or controlled by a group
- Displaying relevant mental health issues

SWRAC will cooperate with local panels involved in the Channel process. A representative of SWRAC will attend meetings as required to aid the mitigation of identified risk and vulnerabilities.

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This includes contributing towards the support plan and sharing information necessary and proportionate to the effective working of the panel.

6. Preventing radicalisation

SWRAC will assess the risk of students being drawn into terrorism through identifying the factors that affect children in the local area and knowing how to identify those at risk.

Allegations and concerns of radicalisation and/or terrorism will always be taken seriously and staff will act proportionately, which may include making a Prevent referral.

Where appropriate, students will be helped to channel their desire for excitement and adventure into suitable and healthy activities.

Extremist propaganda is widely available online – SWRAC will ensure that British values are promoted regularly to encourage students to develop an appreciation of society. SWRAC will work with local religious and cultural organisations to instil a strong sense of identity in our students, as well as a clear place and purpose within the college.

SWRAC recognises that students' parents and families are best placed to spot signs of radicalisation and, as such, will promote effective engagement with parents and families.

All internet activity that takes place on site will be recorded, as well as activity on any SWRAC-owned computers, laptops and tablets off site, and appropriate filters will be installed to protect children from terrorist and extremist material online, in accordance with the Online Safety Policy. In accordance with KCSIE and our Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection and Safeguarding Policy, students will be taught about the importance of staying safe online through lessons.

We will always aim to integrate and engage students within SWRAC community, and in the wider community. A range of different religious and cultural festivals will be celebrated across the year giving every student the opportunity to take part.

SWRAC will monitor and assess incidents which suggest students are engaging, or are at risk of engaging, in extremist activity and/or radicalisation. Where a student has been identified as at risk of radicalisation, SWRAC will take action proportionate to the incident or risk.

7. Making a judgement

Although extremist behaviour can be presented in many forms, SWRAC recognises the following as potential indicators of radicalisation or a susceptibility to radicalisation:

- Disclosure about extremist or radicalised behaviour by students – this could include exposure to materials outside of school
- Use of specific terms associated with certain ideological views, e.g. 'hate' language

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- Intelligence reports from local and national agencies regarding the radicalisation of groups of people in the local area
- Focus on specific narratives that highlight particular extremist views
- Evidence of accessing online materials that include extremist materials
- Refusal to accept views expressed by others which is counter to the school's Equality & Diversity Policy
- Documented concerns raised by parents or family members about the changing behaviour of the student
- References to an extremist narrative in the student's work
- Disassociation from existing friendship groups
- A loss of interest in activities in which they previously engaged
- Behavioural characteristics, such as low self-esteem, isolation, and perceptions of failure and injustice
- Family tensions
- Events affecting their country or region of origin
- Alienation from UK values
- Grievance triggered by personal experience of discrimination
- Property damage
- Refusal to cooperate with the requests of tutors or other adults

When assessing whether a student is at risk of radicalisation, staff will ask themselves the following questions:

- Does the student have access to extremist influences through the internet?
- Does the student possess or actively seek extremist material?
- Does the student sympathise with, or support, extremist groups or behaviour in their speech or written work?
- Does the student's demeanour suggest a new social, religious or political influence, e.g. through jewellery or clothing?
- Has the student previously been a victim of discrimination or a religious crime?
- Has the student experienced any major disagreements with their peers, family or faith groups, leading to rejection, isolation or exclusion?
- Does the student display an irregular and distorted view of religion or politics?
- Does the student display a strong objection towards specific cultures, faiths or race?
- Is the student a foreign national awaiting a decision regarding deportation or immigration?
- Is there an irregular pattern of travel within the student's family?
- Has the student witnessed or suffered from trauma or violence in a war zone or through sectarian conflict?
- Is there evidence of a relative or family friend displaying extremist views?
- Has the student travelled for extended periods of time to international locations?
- Does the student have experience of poverty, disadvantage, discrimination or social exclusion?

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- Does the student display a lack of affinity or understanding for others?
- Is the student a victim of social isolation?
- Does the student have insecure, conflicted or absent family relationships?

Critical indicators include where a student is:

- In contact with extremist recruiters.
- Articulating support for extremist causes or leaders.
- Accessing extremist websites.
- In possession of 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.

The DSL, and any deputies, will undergo Prevent awareness training in order to provide advice and support to staff on protecting students from the risk of radicalisation. Staff will undergo Prevent awareness training, delivered by the DSL, internal training platform or external training, in order to ensure that they are up-to-date to recognise indicators of radicalisation. Staff, including the DSL and any deputies, will also undergo regular training in response to any updates.

SWRAC will encourage staff to engage with online government resources, including the website Educate Against Hate, and the Prevent e-learning modules provided by the Home Office.

8. Making a referral

In accordance with SWRAC's Child and Vulnerable Adults Protection and Safeguarding Policy, if any member of staff has any concerns about a student, they will raise this with the DSL.

Parents will be contacted to discuss the issue and investigate where there are any mitigating home circumstances, unless doing so would put the student at further risk of harm. A decision will be made at this meeting to determine whether a referral should be made to the Channel programme. In most cases, the DSL/DDSL will refer the case to the Channel programme where there is a radicalisation concern, as appropriate.

Staff members may make referrals to the Channel programme if they deem it necessary – the DSL will be notified in all cases and will support staff members who do so. Staff members will be informed that they may be asked to attend a Channel panel to discuss the student who has been referred to determine whether support is required. The LA's Channel panel will decide which support, if any, is required and arrange for this support to be implemented.

The DSL/DDSL will follow up any referrals and the student will be monitored for a period of time to determine whether there have been any changes in behaviour. Parents will be consulted during this period, unless doing so would put the student at further risk of harm.

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If any concerns are raised, the DSL/DDSL will contact the Channel programme to discuss further steps.

The DSL will record and retain all incidents for school records in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK GDPR, as outlined in the Data Protection Policy.

9. Promoting fundamental British values

Through the curriculum, SWRAC will:

- Teach our students in a broad and balanced way.
- Represent the cultures of all of our students.
- Discuss the UK's relations with the rest of Europe, the Commonwealth and the wider world.
- Enable students to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence.
- Enable students to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England.
- Encourage students to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of SWRAC and to society more widely.
- Enable students to acquire a broad general knowledge of, and respect for, public institutions and services in England.
- Further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling students to acquire an appreciation of, and respect for, their own and other cultures.
- Encourage respect for other people.
- Encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.
- Using opportunities such as general or local elections to hold mock elections to offer students the chance to engage in politics.

SWRAC will do this by:

- Including material on the strengths, advantages and disadvantages of democracy, and how democracy and the law work in Britain as part of our curriculum.
- Ensuring that all students within SWRAC have a voice that is listened to, e.g. by demonstrating how democracy works via a school council whose members are voted for by the students.
- Using teaching resources from a wide variety of sources to help students understand a range of faiths.

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- Considering the role of extra-curricular activities in promoting fundamental British values.

10. Community links

SWRAC will engage in community round-table discussions with local community and religious leaders, and local law enforcement. Advisory board meetings will include discussion about extremism and terrorism where appropriate.

SWRAC will operate an open-door policy for community members to report concerns.

SWRAC will, where appropriate, partake in community festivals, religious celebrations and other events. SWRAC will select a range of charities to support across the year which represent our school community, including local community groups.

11. Monitoring and review

This policy is reviewed annually by the DSL and the headteacher. The next scheduled review date for this policy is May 2024



Potential Hazard	Potential Risk(s)	Persons Affected	Control measures	Comments and review date	Residual Risk
Organisation unaware of Prevent Duty	Extremism active within learning environment	Students, staff	Adrian leads interface with Advisory Board DSL/DDSL's operational leads as per safeguarding Annual training for staff and ABM's	No change 06/2023	Low
Organisation unaware of Prevent Duty	SWRAC non-compliant with Prevent Duty	Students, staff	All staff have received Prevent Training. Face to Face training provided twice per year so that each member of staff and Advisory Board members are able to access at least once per year. 'Resources' section of database provides easy access to Prevent info for refreshment purposes	No change 06/2023	low
Exposure to extremism/ radicalisation	Radicalised behaviours	Students	Extremism & radicalisation included within PFA curriculum Promotional materials within learning venues Tutors to challenge and discriminatory behaviours where necessary radicalisation can take place online awareness of internet safety, this is reflected within the curriculum. local far right wing extremists are prevalent in urban areas, both Bournemouth and Weymouth have seen EDL activity over the past few years. Rural areas have their own risks such as animal extremism, hunt	Change to include social media awareness 06/2023	Low

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			saboteurs and other issues which could be a catalyst for other forms of extremism. membership of local far-right wing groups such as Wessex Resistance tends to fluctuate with new groups emerging as others become less active. Liverpool Self-initiated Terrorism (S-IT) remains the top strategic priority nationally and regionally. S-ITs can have Islamist and Extreme Right Wing Terrorist (ERWT) ideology, they remain unpredictable and difficult to detect. Online extremist propaganda remains a focus for both Islamist and ERWT ideologies, with new and recirculated material being disseminated. Radicalisation activity, both online and in person, continues to be a key risk in the North West. Social media awareness in the curriculum to be reviewed – summer 23		
Non-involvement with society	Social exclusion Isolation Potential for increased exposure to radicalisation / extremism	Students	British Values incorporated within PFA curriculum. Community engagement element of PFA tries to educate toward social inclusion Good relations with Dorset Race Equality Council for referrals & advice	No change 06/2023	Low

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Geographic exposure to extremism / radicalisation	Exposure to radicalisation	Students	Dorset is NOT judged by the government to be a high priority area for Prevent activities, however, we are no different to any other part of the UK for the threats we face. However, higher risk within short car journeys of centres. Liverpool Self-initiated Terrorism (S-IT) remains the top strategic priority nationally and regionally. S-ITs can have Islamist and Extreme Right Wing Terrorist (ERWT) ideology, they remain unpredictable and difficult to detect. Online extremist propaganda remains a focus for both Islamist and ERWT ideologies, with new and recirculated material being disseminated. Radicalisation activity, both online and in person, continues to be a key risk in the North West. Some extremist behaviours more prevalent Watching brief maintained through relations with Prevent multi agency board Bulletins from Safer Internet Centre and Education Against Hate to try to keep abreast of changing situations	Changes made re North West 06/2023	Low/medium
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Ability to respond to any identified behaviours	Potential of inertia in any required escalation	Students	Included as part of Safeguarding & Prevent processes. Staff training incorporates the identification of behaviours which may suggest students being radicalised Contact details maintained within Safeguarding files Both Prevent & Safeguarding policies Participation with BCP, Dorset, Merseyside Safeguarding Boards. DSL/ADSL's familiar with referral systems – CHANNEL, CONTEST etc	No change 06/2023	Low
Internet access	Potential exposure and access to extremist material	Students	E-Safety policy 'Trend' internet security system (filters, firewall etc) maintains security over potentially threatening websites Publicity Staff will challenge activity as a discussion aid	06/2023	Low