

Bede Academy



Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation Policy

Last review: May 2019
Approval: June 2019
Next review: June 2020

Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation Policy

1. POLICY STATEMENT

Bede Academy is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its students. Every member of staff recognises that safeguarding against radicalisation and extremism is part of safeguarding all students. The Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation policy sets out the Academy's position 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

The Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation policy links to the following Academy policies:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding policy
- Equality policy
- Anti-bullying policy
- Positive Behaviour Management policy
- E-Safety policy

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

- PREVENT strategy: HM Government
- The Prevent Duty: June 2015
- The Channel Duty Guidance: 2015
- Keeping Children Safe in Education: DfE 2018
- Working Together to Safeguard Children: HM Government 2018

3. AIMS AND PRINCIPLES

- 3.1 Bede Academy's policy is intended to provide a framework for dealing with issues relating to vulnerability, radicalisation and exposure to extreme views. The Academy is well placed to be able to identify safeguarding issues and this policy clearly sets out how the Academy will deal with such incidents and identifies how the curriculum and ethos underpins its actions.
- 3.2 The objectives are that all governors, teachers, Learning Support Assistants and non-teaching staff will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why vigilance is important. Everyone will understand the approach to tackling extremism and radicalisation and will follow the policy guidance swiftly when issues arise.
- 3.3 All students will understand the dangers of radicalisation and exposure to extremist views; building resilience against these and knowing what to do if they experience them. The policy will be regularly reviewed to ensure that it is appropriate and effective.
- 3.4 The main aims of this policy are to ensure that staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalisation, that they overcome professional belief that such issues could not occur at Bede Academy and ensure that staff work alongside other professional bodies and agencies to ensure that students are safe from harm.

4. DEFINITIONS AND INDICATORS

- 4.1 Radicalisation is defined as the act or process of making a person more radical or favouring of extreme changes in political, economic or social conditions, institutions or habits of the mind.
- 4.2 Extremism is defined as the holding of extreme political or religious views.
- 4.3 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.
 - 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 or 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
 - condoning or supporting violence towards others.

5. PROCEDURES FOR REFERRALS

- 5.1 Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at Bede Academy to date, it is important to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues which affect the local area and society. Staff are reminded to suspend any professional belief that instances of radicalisation could not happen at the Academy and to be professionally inquisitive where concerns arise, referring any concerns through the appropriate channels.
- 5.2 **Early intervention with all students is vital** and staff must be aware of the established processes for front line professionals to refer concerns about individuals and/or groups. The Academy must have the confidence to challenge, the confidence to intervene and ensure that there are strong safeguarding practices based on the most up-to-date guidance and best practice.
- 5.3 **Everyone has a responsibility to take action to report any concerning content online.** Staff must be aware of reporting websites, such as www.gov.uk/report-terrorism and <https://www.gov.uk/terrorism-national-emergency/reporting-suspected-terrorism>. It is vital that any such online content is reported to the Principal immediately.
- 5.3 The Principal will deal swiftly with any referrals made by staff or with concerns reported by staff.

- 5.4 The Principal will consider the most appropriate course of action on a case-by-case basis and will decide when a referral to external agencies is needed.
- 5.5 In the unlikely event that the Principal is not available then staff should refer any concerns to a member of the SLT who will take the next step.
- 5.6 Staff will be fully briefed about what to do if they are concerned about the possibility of radicalisation relating to a student, or if they need to discuss specific children whom they consider to be vulnerable to radicalisation or extremist views.
- 5.7 The Pastoral Team will maintain a “Prevent Log” to record any referrals and their actions.

6. THE ROLE OF THE CURRICULUM

- 6.1 The curriculum is a broad and balanced one. It promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. Students are encouraged to share their views and recognise that they are entitled to have their own different beliefs and to understand others’ perspectives.
- 6.2 Students’ personal development is a high priority which is embedded across the curriculum. Tutor Reflections and Assemblies provide opportunities for tackling extremist view points and the dangers of radicalisation. It is recognised that some students with low aspirations are more vulnerable to radicalisation and, therefore, Bede Academy continues to strive to develop student character including confidence, self-belief, respect and tolerance as well as setting high standards and expectations for themselves.
- 6.3 Students 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.

7. STAFF TRAINING

Through INSET opportunities in the Academy and through staff briefings, staff are made 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 and are aware of how they can provide support to ensure that students are resilient and able to resist involvement in radical or extreme activities.

8. VISITORS AND THE USE OF ACADEMY PREMISES

- 8.1 If any member of staff wishes to invite a visitor to the Academy, they must ensure that they have checked out their credentials and ensure that they meet the Visitors’ policy. Students are NEVER left unsupervised with external visitors, regardless of safeguarding check outcomes.
- 8.2 Upon arriving at the Academy, all visitors, including contractors, must be met by a member of staff and escorted to the appropriate room/hall. If there are any concerns, then the member of staff must first report to the Pastoral Office.

9. POLICY REVIEW

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