



# **Dealing with Extremism Statement 2021-24**

***Millfields Community School recognises the responsibilities of all staff to safeguard children.***

***The whole school community - staff, parents, governors, volunteers and students at Millfields have an active part in protecting children from harm.***

***It is the moral and legal duty of all adults in charge of children to be ready to protect children in danger from abuse.***

***Education staff have a responsibility to observe, monitor and refer suspected abuse.***

## **Introduction**

This policy is a summary of our existing policies and practice to formalise response to the threat of radicalisation and extremism.

All members of staff are made aware of their responsibility to show and promote tolerance of, and respect for, the rights of others, not undermining fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. Staff are expected to ensure that personal beliefs are not expressed in ways which exploit pupils' vulnerability or might lead them to break the law.

Teachers must not promote partisan political views in the teaching of any subject and are required to ensure that whenever political issues are brought to the attention of pupils a balanced presentation of the opposing views are also explained.

The staff and governors, aspire to ensure that all our pupils, irrespective of ability and regardless of anyone's doubts, achieve their potential in full.

## **The Curriculum and Combating Extremism**

Our core values, respect and equality informs the curriculum, as it does all aspects of our work. We endeavour to promote personal responsibility and understanding the differences between right and wrong.

We also promote respect and the understanding of the need for rules.

We take every opportunity for the development in the personal and spiritual aspects of the pupils so enabling the children to become positive and emotionally resilient adults with the knowledge and confidence to challenge ideas that they do not agree with.

Some of the most valuable work in combating extremism is carried out in PSHCE lessons and Religious Education. We try to ensure that tolerance and understanding are championed through learning about diversity. We aim to be a safe place for children to share their views within the acknowledged respectful culture of the learning environment.

## **The use of the Internet and other Electronic Means**

It is strictly forbidden to use our website, IT facilities or other elements of the information management systems or processes for the promotion, planning or execution of violent extremism in the name of ideology or belief.

We reserve the right to exercise control over all activities on its IT facilities and networks, including the monitoring of systems and electronic communications and access to external electronic resources.

We recognise our obligations under legislation relating to the prevention of terrorism, in particular the requirement to respond within two working days to requests from the police to remove or amend any statement published on our hosted website that may appear to encourage or promote terrorism.

## **Freedom of Speech within our premises**

We are committed to the principle of free speech. Therefore so far as it is reasonably practicable, access to the premises is not denied to any pupil or employee or any individual or body of persons invited to our schools by a pupil or member of staff on any grounds related to the beliefs or views of the student, employee or invited persons. Nor is access denied due to the policies or objectives of that body.

Where the expression of such beliefs, views, policies or objectives are unlawful and where it is deemed these might be expressed on our school site, we reserve the right for these beliefs and ideas not to be expressed on our school site or to our children when under our care or supervision.

We recognise the needs to balance the rights of the freedom of speech with the provisions of the Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006 which outlaws the use of threatening words or behaviour, or the display of any threatening written material, with the intent to stir up religious hatred.

### **Reporting Arrangements**

We recognise the importance of identifying and taking action to prevent or remove behaviour or activity described in this policy. All staff and other individuals connected with our schools play a vital role in reporting concerns relating to the behaviour described in this policy. The procedures are based upon the principles of our Whistle blowing & Safeguarding Policies.

Where children are concerned a disclosure should be treated as a child protection issue and the appropriate steps taken in line with school policy. Our school will report concerns raised as appropriate to the local authority PREVENT lead and contribute to the CHANNEL process.

If a concern is raised suitable action will be taken in consultation with the relevant authorities both within and outside of our school. If the disclosure involves the Head teacher, then the individual is required to contact the Chair of Governors

#### **See also:**

Equalities Policy

PSHE policy

Behaviour Policy

Anti –Bullying Policy

Acceptable use of the Internet Policy

Safeguarding Children Policy

