



PREVENT DUTY

Anti-Radicalisation

Heatherside Pre-school are fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of its children and staff members. We recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation is no different from safeguarding against any other vulnerability. All staff are expected to uphold and promote the fundamental principles of the British Values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

The main aims of this statement 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 children are safe from harm.

We aim:

- All staff and volunteers will have understanding and an appropriate level of training (Home office Prevent Training) of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in nursery.
- Children are supported in making good choices from any early age, so they understand the impact and consequences of their actions on others.
- All staff will know that the school policy is on anti-radicalisation and extremism and will follow the procedures when issues arise.
- All parents/carers will know the school has policies in place to keep pupils safe from harm and we (the Pre-school) regularly reviews it systems to ensure they are appropriate and effective.

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

Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism. Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is seen as part of Heatherside Pre-schools wider safeguarding duties and is similar in nature to protecting children from other forms of harm and abuse.

There is no single way of identifying who is likely to be susceptible to an ideology. It can happen in many ways and settings. Specific background factors may contribute to vulnerability which are often combined with specific influences such as family, friends or online, and with specific needs for which an extremist or terrorist group appear to provide



and answer. The internet and the use of social media has become a major factor in the radicalisation of young people.

Extremism is defined as the holding of extreme political or religious views. It is the vocal or active opposition to fundamental British Values.

At Heatherside Pre-school it is essential that staff are able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation and know what to do when they are identified.

There are several behaviours that might indicate that an individual is at risk of being radicalised or exposed to extreme views. Such behaviours may 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 of cause
- Loss of interest in other friends and activities not associated with an extremist cause
- Attempts to introduce others to the group/cause
- Communication with others that suggests identification with a group, cause of ideology
- Using names/language ranging from insulting to derogatory or members of 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

These behaviours do seem quite grown up in nature for the children we have in our care, however some may start to appear in a small way!

Our curriculum 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.

It is recognised that children with low self-esteem can often be more vulnerable to radicalisation and therefore we strive to equip our children confidences, self-belief, respect and tolerance as well as setting high standards and expectations from them.



Procedures for referrals

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at Heatherside Pre-school to date, it is important for us to remain constantly vigilant and remain fully informed.

about the issues which affect the wider region in which we teach. Staff are reminded to suspend professional disbelief that instances of radicalisation “could not happen here”

If staff do have a concern, they will follow Pre-schools normal safeguarding procedures. It is best practice to ensure that the designated safeguarding lead officer is involved in the process.

Designated Lead Safeguarding – Rachel Thompson
Deputy Safeguarding Lead – Kerrie Curtis

Other options such as contacting the police. The department for education has a dedicated telephone helpline (020 7340 7264). This helpline can be used for practitioners to raise concerns relating to extremism directly, however this is not to be used in an emergency where a child is at harm, Heatherside Pre-school will refer to our Safeguarding Policy.

This Policy was created by K.Curtis – 19th February 2020

Reviewed & re-agreed at AGM held 29th September 2020 Chair Jo Griffin

Reviewed & re-agreed at AGM held 08th October 2021 Chair Alex Constantine