

# Al-Khair Prep School

## Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation



<b>Approved by:</b>	Governing Body	<b>Date:</b> 20 September 2023
<b>Last reviewed on:</b>	September 2022	Almas Iqbal
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### **Statement of intent**

Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is part of the school's wider safeguarding duties. We will actively assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorism. Staff will be alert to changes in children's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Staff will use their professional judgement to identify children who may be at risk of radicalisation and act appropriately – which may include making a referral to the Channel programme. The school will work with the Local Children's Safeguarding Board as appropriate.

### **Definitions**

**Radicalisation:** a process by which an individual or group comes to adopt increasingly extreme political, social, or religious ideals and aspirations that reject or undermine the status quo or reject and/or undermine contemporary ideas and expressions of freedom of choice.

**Extremism:** holding extreme political or religious views; fanaticism.

### **Training**

The designated safeguarding lead will undertake Prevent awareness training in order to be able to provide advice and support to other staff on how to protect children against the risk of radicalisation. The designated safeguarding lead will hold formal training sessions with all members of staff to ensure they are aware of the risk indicators and their duties regarding preventing radicalisation. All staff have taken the online prevent training and safeguarding training. The certificates will be placed in their files. Annual WRAP training from Croydon Council will be booked during the Autumn term.

## **Risk indicators**

### **Indicators of an identity crisis:**

- Distancing themselves from their cultural/religious heritage
- Uncomfortable with their place in society
- Changing style of dress or personal experience to accord with the group
- Conversation increasingly focussed on a particular (potentially extremist) ideology
- Possession of materials or symbols associated with an extremist cause

### **Indicators of a personal crisis:**

- Family tensions
- A sense of isolation
- Low self-esteem
- Disassociation from existing friendship groups
- Loss of interest in activities which they previously engaged with
- Searching for answers to questions about identity, faith and belonging

### **Indicators of vulnerability through personal circumstances:**

- Migration
- Local community tensions
- Events affecting their country or region of origin
- Alienation from UK values
- A sense of grievance triggered by personal experience of racism or discrimination

### **Indicators of vulnerability through unmet aspirations:**

- Perceptions of injustice
- Feelings of failure
- Rejection of civic life

### **Other indicators:**

- Using derogatory language about a particular group
- Inappropriate forms of address
- Possession of prejudice related material
- Property damage
- Refusal to cooperate with teachers/adults requests
- Condoning or supporting engagement with extremist ideologies or groups

## **Making a judgement**

When making a judgement, staff will ask themselves the following questions:

- Does the child have access to extremist influences?

- Does the child access the internet for the purposes of extremist activities (e.g. using closed network groups, accessing or distributing extremist material, contacting covertly using Skype, etc.)?
- Is there a reason to believe that the child has been, or is likely to be, involved with extremist organisations?
- Is the child known to possess or actively seek extremist literature/other media likely to incite racial or religious hatred?
- Does the child sympathise with or support illegal/illicit groups?
- Does the child support groups with links to extremist activity?
- Has the child encountered peer, social, family or faith group rejection?
- Is there evidence of extremist ideological, political or religious influence on the child?
- Have international events in areas of conflict and civil unrest had a noticeable impact on the child?
- Has there been a significant shift in the child's outward appearance that suggests a new social, political or religious influence?
- Has the child come into conflict with family over religious beliefs, lifestyle or dress choices?
- Does the child vocally support terrorist attacks; either verbally or in their written work?
- Has the child witnessed or been the victim of racial or religious hate crime?
- Is there a pattern of regular or extended travel within the UK?
- Has the child travelled for extended periods of time to international locations?
- Does the child have experience of poverty, disadvantage, discrimination or social exclusion?
- Does the child display a lack of affinity or understanding for others?
- Is the child the victim of social isolation?
- Does the child demonstrate a simplistic or flawed understanding of religion or politics?
- Is the child a foreign national, refugee or awaiting a decision on their/their family's immigration status?
- Does the child have insecure, conflicted or absent family relationships?
- Has the child experienced any trauma in their lives, particularly trauma associated with war or sectarian conflict?
- Is there evidence that a significant adult or other person in the child's life has extremist views or sympathies?

Critical indicators include where the child is:

- In contact with extremist recruiters
- Articulating support for extremist causes or leaders
- Accessing extremist websites
- Possessing 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

## **Referrals**

At Al-Khair School we are committed to protecting our pupils from radicalisation through a process of early intervention.

All staff are encouraged to raise any concerns they might have about a child with the designated safeguarding lead. The safeguarding lead will then assess the situation and decide whether further action is required. If so, they will then discuss any concerns with the headteacher and decide the best course of action regarding a referral to external agencies.

Any decisions made will be made on a case-by-case basis and staff must be made aware that if they disagree with a decision not to refer, they are entitled to make a referral themselves where they harbour genuine concerns that a child is at risk.

## **Preventing radicalisation through learning**

In addition to a vigilant programme of awareness of risk indicators and referrals where necessary, Al-Khair School is dedicated to protecting our pupils by engaging them in activities which help them to be more resilient to radical influences.

The following are part of the school's strategy to encourage tolerance and moderation of views in all children:

Islamic Studies Curriculum

PSHE lessons

Assemblies

Hadith of the Week

Community links

The Local Authority Designated Officers are:

**Steve Hall or Jane Parr**

LADO@croydon.gov.uk 0208 255 2889

For urgent child protection matters requiring immediate attention: Tel: 0208 255 2888 (9-5pm)

Professionals Consultation Line: Tel: 0208 726 6464 (1-4.30pm)

Out of Hours line: 020 8726 6400 (5pm-9am)

Mash Service Manager: Jonathan Lung

Email: Jonathan.Lung@croydon.gov.uk

**Croydon Safeguarding Children Partnership (CSCP)**

Website: <https://croydonlcsb.org.uk/>

[Safeguarding learning & development](#)

Email: [CSCP@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:CSCP@croydon.gov.uk)

Along with the above the school will work with the following partners, a clinical commissioning group and the chief of police.

**In an emergency, or if you believe a child is at immediate risk of harm call the police on 999.**

**For urgent calls out of hours (17:00 – 09:00) please contact 020 8726 6400 and ask to speak to the out of hours team.**

Contact in case of an Extremism issue If you have any concerns relating to extremism please contact at: 020 7340 7264 Or send an email at: [counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk)

Please see link for DfE Statutory guidance for schools and colleges

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/550511/Keeping\\_children\\_safe\\_in\\_education.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/550511/Keeping_children_safe_in_education.pdf)