

RIDGEWAY ACADEMY



PREVENTING EXTREMISM AND RADICALISATION POLICY

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Signed by: _____ (print name)	Signature: _____

RIDGEWAY ACADEMY

PREVENTING EXTREMISM AND RADICALISATION POLICY

Introduction

Ridgeway Academy is committed to providing a secure environment for students, where children feel safe and are kept safe.

This Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy is one element within our overall school arrangements to Safeguard and Promote the Welfare of all Children in line with our statutory duties set out at s175 of the Education Act 2002 (s157 of the Education Act 2002).

All schools are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. This duty is known as the Prevent duty.

Scope

This policy applies to all Governors, staff and students of Ridgeway Academy. It also applies to parents and carers of students at school, who formally confirm that they will abide by our policies when their children join our school.

Ridgeway Academy will ensure that the contents of this policy are communicated to all staff. This communication must be evidenced in writing and refreshed on an annual basis. All parents must formally accept this policy when their children join our school and this acceptance must be evidenced in writing through the Home-School Agreement.

Ridgeway Academy will publish this policy on its website.

Definitions

Bullying:	Bullying may involve abuse and is addressed in the Anti-Bullying Policy.
Channel	A multi-agency panel which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism.
Child	Anyone under the age of 18.
Extremism	Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- democracy;- the rule of law;- individual liberty;- mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs;- calls for the death of members of the armed forces.
Parent	Those having parental responsibility for the care of a Child (including Carers).
PSHE	Personal, social, health and emotional education.
Student	Anyone enrolled at Ridgeway Academy (including students in Years 12 and 13).
Radicalisation	A process by which an individual or group comes to adopt increasingly extreme political, social, or religious ideas and aspirations.
Safeguarding	Safeguarding means:

RIDGEWAY ACADEMY

- Protecting children from maltreatment, including domestic violence, gender based violence, female genital mutilation and child sexual exploitation.
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development, including fabricated or induced illnesses, drug use or faith abuse.
- Providing an environment consistent with the provision of safe and effective care.
- Taking appropriate action to promote child welfare.
- Identifying behaviour or attitudes that might suggest that the child is vulnerable to extremist or terrorist indoctrination.

SLT Senior Leadership Team.

Staff Anyone employed by Ridgeway Academy.

Policy

1. There is no place for extremist views of any kind in our school, whether from students, staff or Governors, or external sources or individuals. Our students must see our school as a safe place where they can explore controversial issues safely and where our teachers encourage and facilitate.
2. Extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes for children and so should be addressed as a safeguarding concern as set out in this policy.
3. Extremists of all persuasions aim to develop destructive relationships between different communities by promoting division, fear and mistrust of others based on ignorance or prejudice and thereby limiting the life chances of young people. Education is a powerful weapon against this; equipping young people with the knowledge, skills and critical thinking, to challenge and debate in an informed way.
4. The Prevent Duty has four key elements:
 - **Risk Assessment:** The Headteacher of Ridgeway Academy will assess local risk and identify students who are at risk and determine the appropriate referral process.
 - **Working in partnership:** The Headteacher is responsible for establishing effective partnerships with the appropriate local agencies and to guide parents towards appropriate sources of support
 - **Staff training:** The Headteacher is responsible for training staff in 'Prevent' (WRAP) and ensuring annual safeguarding update training is provided.
 - **IT policies:** The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring that filtering measures are in place to prevent extremist material being accessed on site and that staff understand online risks and how social media is used to engage young people.
5. The Headteacher must ensure that staff help students to build resilience to extremism and give students a positive sense of identity through the development of critical thinking skills. The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring that all of staff are equipped to recognise extremism and are skilled and confident enough to challenge it.
6. Any prejudice, discrimination or extremist views, including derogatory language, must always be challenged and where dealt with in line with the Behaviour Policy and any other appropriate policies.
7. As part of wider safeguarding responsibilities staff, must be alert to:
 - i. Disclosures by students of their exposure to the extremist actions,

RIDGEWAY ACADEMY

views or materials of others outside of school, such as in their homes or community groups, especially where students have not actively sought these out.

- ii. Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images.
- iii. Students accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites.
- iv. Parental reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance.
- v. Partner schools, local authority services, and police reports of issues affecting students in other schools or settings.
- vi. Students voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives.
- vii. Use of extremist or 'hate' terms to exclude others or incite violence.
- viii. Intolerance of difference, whether secular or religious or, in line with our Equality and Diversity Policy, views based on, but not exclusive to, gender, disability, homophobia, race, colour or culture.
- ix. Attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others.
- x. Anti-Western or Anti-British views.

Use of External Agencies and Speakers

8. We encourage the use of external agencies or speakers to enrich the experiences of our students. The Headteacher will ensure that procedures are in place to vet any visitor in accordance with our Safeguarding Policy. Such vetting is to ensure that we do not unwittingly use agencies that contradict each other with their messages or that are inconsistent with, or are in complete opposition to, the school's values and ethos.
9. The Headteacher must assess the suitability and effectiveness of input from external agencies or individuals to ensure that:
 - i. The school is clear about any messages which will be shared with students.
 - ii. Activities are embedded in the curriculum and clearly mapped to schemes of work to avoid contradictory messages or duplication.
 - ii. Activities are evaluated to ensure that they are effective.

Speak up

10. Where there are concerns of extremism or radicalisation, staff and students must report their concerns.

Review

11. The Headteacher must keep up to date with relevant legislation and government guidance and update this policy whenever necessary. The Governors must approve the revised version.
12. The Headteacher must review the policy at the end of July each year and submit a revised policy for Governors approval if applicable.
13. The Local Governing Body must formally review and re-approve this policy every three years.