



# **Prevent Policy**

**Yohden Primary School**

## **Protecting Children from Extremism and Radicalisation**

Schools have a vital role to play in protecting children and young people from the risks of extremism and radicalisation. This role is underpinned by the Counter Terrorism and Security Act (2015) to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

The Prevent Strategy, published by the Government in 2011 is part of an overall counter terrorism strategy CONTEST. The aim of the Prevent strategy is to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism activity. This has raised a specific need to safeguard children, young people and families from violent extremism and terrorism. Nationally, there have been situations in which extremist groups have attempted to radicalise vulnerable children and young people to hold extreme views. Such views include justifying political, religious, sexist or racist violence, or to steer individuals into a rigid and narrow ideology that is either vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values including embracing diversity and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

Yohden Primary School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and young people who we work with. As a childcare provider, 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 British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Yohden Primary School values freedom of speech and the expression of beliefs/ideology as fundamental rights underpinning our society's values. Children, young people and all childcare workers have the right to speak freely and voice their opinions however, freedom comes with responsibility and free speech that is designed to manipulate the vulnerable or that leads to violence and/or harm of others goes against the moral principles in which freedom of speech is valued. Free speech is not an unqualified privilege; it is subject to laws and policies governing equality, human rights, community safety and community cohesion.

The current threat from terrorism in the United Kingdom may include the exploitation of vulnerable people, to involve them in terrorism or in activity in support of terrorism. The normalisation of extreme views may also make children and young people vulnerable to future manipulation and exploitation. We are clear that this exploitation and radicalisation should be viewed as a safeguarding concern.

Approved by Governors Autumn 2016.  
To be reviewed every three years.