

## **PREVENTING RADICALISATION & EXTREMISM POLICY**

*Last Reviewed/Updated: 03.02.2020*

*Next Review/Update: 15.08.2020*

Regent Independent College, hereafter referred to as 'Regent,' is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the safety and wellbeing of all its students. The College recognises that safeguarding against radicalisation is no different from safeguarding against any other vulnerability and we therefore encourage that this document is read with reference to our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

### *1. Rationale*

Regent's Prevent Strategy has been written in response to and in line with government guidance and forms part of the government's counter terrorism strategy which seeks to:

- Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and aspects of extremism and the threat faced from those who promote these views.
- Provide practical help to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and to ensure they are given appropriate advice and support.
- Work with a wide range of sectors where there are risks of radicalisation which need to be addressed, including education, criminal justice, faith, charities, the internet and health

### *2. Purpose*

The purpose of Regent's Prevent Strategy is to protect students from harm and to ensure that they are taught in a way that is consistent with the law and British values. The main aims of this strategy are to ensure that members of staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalisation; that they overcome professional disbelief that such issues will not happen within our community and ensure that we work alongside other professional bodies and agencies to ensure that our students are safe from harm as 'it does happen here.'

### *3. Objectives*

- Staff and advisory board members will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- Staff and advisory board members will be aware of the Prevent strategy and will follow the provided guidance when issues arise.
- Parents/carers and students will know that Regent has a strategy in place to keep students safe from harm and regularly reviews its systems to ensure they are appropriate, effective and compliant with current legislation.

### *4. Staff Training*

All staff take the online Prevent training.. The training aims to ensure that staff are fully aware of the threats, risks and vulnerabilities that are linked to radicalisation, the process of radicalisation and how this might be identified early on. We will run further training sessions each year for new staff.

## 5. The Role of the Curriculum

All schools are required by law to teach a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes the spiritual, moral and cultural (SMSC) development of students and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life. Regent challenges all prejudices, recognising students who are at risk of isolation. The emphasis on pastoral care through assemblies, Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHEE) and Personal Development Programme ensure that the college is a safe place to learn and that anti-bullying strategies minimise hate and prejudice based bullying. The college seeks to promote positive relationships and understanding within our community. Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance, diversity and British Values. All students 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. Our PSHEE, Citizenship and Spiritual, moral, social and cultural provision is embedded across the curriculum and underpins the ethos of the school. We strive to equip our students with confidence, self-belief, respect and tolerance, as well as setting high standards and expectations for themselves. Students are regularly taught how to stay safe in a variety of situations that they may face and what to do if they are concerned.

In adhering to this Policy, and the procedures therein, staff and visitors will contribute to the Regent's delivery of the outcomes to all children, as set out in s10 (2) of the Children Act 2004. This Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Safeguarding 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 S157 of the Education Act 2002.

Regent's Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Safeguarding Policy also draws upon the guidance contained in the "London Child Protection Procedures" and DfE Guidance "Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2019"; and "Learning Together to be Safe", "Prevent: Resources Guide", "Tackling Extremism in the UK", DfE's "Teaching Approaches that help Build Resilience to Extremism among Young People" and the Education Commissioner (Birmingham) Peter Clarke's report of July 2014. This is in response to duties placed on all schools in The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

Regent uses the following accepted Governmental definition of extremism which is:

*'Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs; and/or calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas'.*

There is no place for extremist views of any kind at Regent, whether from internal sources, pupils, staff or advisory board members – or external sources – school community, external agencies or individuals.

As part of wider safeguarding responsibilities school staff will be alert to:

- Disclosures by pupils of their exposure to the extremist actions, views or materials of others outside of school, such as in their homes or community groups, especially where pupils have not actively sought these out.
- Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images.
- Pupils accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites. The ICT department will monitor computer use carry out regular checks.
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- Parental reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance.
- Partner schools, local authority services, and police reports of issues affecting pupils in other schools or settings.
- Pupils voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives. Attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others.
- Use of extremist or 'hate' terms to exclude others or incite violence.
- Intolerance of difference, whether secular or religious or, in line with our equalities policy, views based on, but not exclusive to, gender, disability, homophobia, race, colour or culture.
- Anti-Western or Anti-British views.
- All concerns should be reported immediately to Regent's Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads using the Radicalisation and Extremism Concern Form (appendix ii).

**The Designated Safeguarding Leads:**

**Miss Caroline Sheppard (Principal's EA and Compliance) is the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).**

**Mrs. Maja Skibinska (Exams Officer) is a Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL).**

**Mr Amit Obhrai (Academic Manager) is a Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)**

**The DSL and DDSLs are as required, part of the senior leadership team.**

They will look for evidence to establish the nature of the behaviour and whether it should be reported.

Incidences will be reported, in the first instance to Harrow Strategic Safeguarding Partnership. A decision on referral to the Channel Panel will be taken in consultation with Channel panel coordinator and the Harrow Strategic Safeguarding Partnership. If referral is not made to Channel, the individual will be directed by the LSCB to other support services. The Police may be informed in the event of concern regarding an immediate risk. Anyone who is concerned about a young person or adult at risk of extremism or radicalisation may make a referral to the Channel Programme. Referral for young people up to and including age 18 (up to 25 with learning disability) should be made on a CAF (Common Assessment Framework) to [Duty&Assess@harrow.gov.uk.cjsm.net](mailto:Duty&Assess@harrow.gov.uk.cjsm.net) detailing the concerns about the young person and relevant history.

Students should be referred if there are concerns about any of the following;

- Changes in patterns of behaviour from known and predictable patterns with day to day behaviour becoming secretive or increasingly centred around extremist ideology, group or cause.
- Expressing attitudes that justify offending on behalf of the group, cause or ideology.

- Using insulting or derogatory names or labels for another group and blaming that group for all social or political ills.
- Condoning or supporting violence or harm towards others and speaking about the imminence of harm from another group and the importance of action now.
- Planning to travel abroad to areas where there are known risks from terrorism and violent extremism.

### Staff Training

The college promotes the teaching of fundamental British Values through key areas of the curriculum and pastoral system including assemblies, Personal Development Programme and PHSEE curriculum that delivers lessons on the use of the internet and social media to bully, groom, abuse or radicalise people.

There is no catch-all description, or fool proof signs that we can look out for. However there are factors which mean a young person may be more vulnerable to those seeking to radicalise them, including;

1. A conviction that their religion or culture is under threat and treated unjustly.
2. A tendency to look for conspiracy theories and distrust of mainstream media.
3. The need for identity and belonging.
4. The need for more excitement and adventure.
5. Being susceptible to influence by their peers/friends. (Further details may be found in appendix 3 Indicators of vulnerability) Mental health issues should not be considered a factor in isolation, but can exacerbate other vulnerabilities mentioned above. In addition, there are certain behaviour changes that we are well placed to notice which indicate that the child may have fallen under the influence of an extremist group such as ISIS, and are at risk of acting upon their new beliefs;
6. Have they become more argumentative and domineering?
7. Are they quick to condemn those who don't agree, and do they ignore viewpoints which contradict their own?
8. Do they express themselves in a divisive 'them and us' manner about others who do not share their religion or beliefs?
9. Has their language changed? Have they asked inappropriate questions, or expressed themselves in a way that sounds scripted? Have they used derogatory terms such as 'kaffir' or 'rafidi', or terms such as 'dawlah' or 'khilafah'?
10. Has their circle of friends changed, including on social media, and are they distancing themselves from friends they were previously close to? • Do their friends express radical or extremist views? • Have they lost interest in activities they used to enjoy? • Are they spending increasing amounts of time online, and are they overly secretive about what they are doing? • Have they changed their style of dress or personal appearance to fit with newfound ideas? • Have they expressed sympathy with violent extremist groups such as ISIS, condoning their

actions and ideology? • Have they expressed sympathy or understanding for other young British people who have joined these groups?

Often the trigger for young people to act on their new-found beliefs is contact with individuals, sometimes through the Internet, who will provide encouragement, practical support and even funding for them to leave their families to travel and join the group.

Radicalisation and Extremism Risk Assessment current at 15.08 2019

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Yes/No</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Actions Required</b>
Is there a designated R&E designated lead?	Yes	Caroline Shepheard	Report to the Advisory body
Is there a written policy?	Yes	Caroline Shepheard	
Has the policy been ratified by the Advisory body	Yes		Policy has been approved by Advisory Board on 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2017, updated in 1.1.20
Has the designated lead, Proprietor received appropriate training on the Prevent Strategy and the role and purpose of Channel Panel?	Yes	HR Manager	To organise appropriate INSET including staff to complete Channel online awareness module. HT and CS have completed this process and certificates are on file
Has the Policy been distributed to staff?	Yes	HR Manager	Policy has been approved.
Have staff signed to say they have read and agreed to implement policy	Yes	HR Manager	Sigend copies are with HR and in ISI foilder
Have staff received appropriate training on the Prevent Strategy and the role and purpose of Channel Panel as well as recognising signs of R&E?	Yes	HR manager	All staffs has completed Channe Panel awarners training.
Will the college work and collaborate with other agencies	Yes	Caroline Shepheard and Co-Principals	The college will work with LSCB, Police, Channel Panel as well as other agencies including inspectorates

Do the students have a process to express their concerns	Yes	Co-Principals	Open Forum sessions Student representative
Are there opportunities for students to learn about R&E	Yes	Teachers	Students are learning about R&E through assemblies, PDP and PHSEE.
Is the College in an area that is prone to R&E	Low Risk Area		
Are external speakers vetted by the college before being allowed to talk to students	Yes	HR manager	All visitor are vetted before arrival.
How will the college ensure that appropriate steps are taken if cases or R&E are reported			We will follow the safeguarding procedure as per all types of safeguarding concerns. Advice may be sought from external agencies eg Harrow Safeguarding Partnership.
Has the college any documentation relating to any cases of R&E	No, there have been no R and E cases.		