Rochdale Islamic Academy
inspire - believe - achieve
BOYS' SCHOOL

PREVENT POLICY

Reviewed: September 2023
Next Review: August 2024
Responsible: M Zarafat (Head)

Governing Body Approved: September 2023
Approved: Mr Sohail Ahmed (Chair of Governors)

PREVENTING AND PROTECTING PUPILS FROM VIOLENT EXTREMISM

1. INTRODUCTION

Rochdale Islamic Academy (RIA) is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. Every member of staff recognizes that safeguarding against radicalization and extremism is no different to safeguarding against any other vulnerability in today's society

This Policy sets out our beliefs, strategies and procedures to protect vulnerable individuals from being radicalized or exposed to extremist views, by identifying who they are and promptly providing them with support

WHAT IS PREVENT?

The Government's National Prevent strategy aim is to:
Stop people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism
This is supported by three specific objectives:

- Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it
- Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support (individuals)
- Work with a wide range of sectors and institutions (including education, faith health and criminal) where there are risks of radiation which need to address (institution)

This policy incorporates guidance from the following documents;

- The Prevent Strategy, GOV.UK -Home Office
- Keeping Children Safe in Education DfE 2023
- Working Together to Safeguard Children HM Gov 2018
- Learning Together to be Safe: a Toolkit to Help Schools Contribute to the Prevention of Violent Extremism was published in 2008 by the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF), a predecessor of the Department for Education

<u>This policy aims to:</u>

- Make it clear that:
  - violent extremism is not part of the Islamic faith
  - There is no place for extremists in RIA including expression of extremist views vocal or active which are opposed to fundamental British values
- Protect all pupils from harm and to ensure that they are taught in a way that is consistent with the law and the British values of tolerance, democracy and liberty.
- Address both Awareness of *Prevent* and the risks it is intended to.
- Enable pupils to explore issues like terrorism and the use of violence in a considered and informed way.
- Facilitate understanding of wider issues within the context of learning about the values on which our society is founded and our system of democratic government.

- Make pupils aware about extreme views and about those who hold them and why these are Islamically wrong.

This policy describes the activities that the School will undertake in order to ensure that pupils attending the school are safeguarded against being influenced by those who hold violent and extreme views:

- Teach material which emphasis the strengths, weaknesses and of democracy in contrast to other forms of government in other countries and how democracy works in Britain.

- Ensure that all pupils within the school have a voice that is listened to, for example by having democratic processes such as the school Shuraa (student council) whose members are voted in by the pupils;

- Organize visits to local councils and places of worship of other faiths, and encourage contacts with those of other faiths, in political or local office;

- Use opportunities such as general or local elections to hold whole school mock elections whereby pupils can learn how to argue and defend points of view.

- Use teaching resources from a wide variety of sources to help pupils to understand a range of faiths, and beliefs such atheism and humanism.'

- Work with the Rochdale Prevent team

- To provide adequate awareness training for staff, pupils and parents.

2. STAFF

The school will:

- Strictly apply its safer recruitment procedures which include DBS checks and references which are in light with '*Keeping children safe in Education 2023'*
- Ensure that teachers do not use teaching materials which may encourage intolerance
- Ensure pupils are not actively encouraged by teachers or visitors to the school to support extremist views of any form.
- Provide regular staff training, including newly appointed staff when undergoing induction on the practice of this policy within the school
- Regularly monitor staff conduct and where necessary, i.e. in extreme cases where it is felt that the staff is a cause for concern, the school will contact the relevant authorities (Rochdale Prevent Team, local Police enforcement, etc) for advice on the matter.

3. OVERVIEW

The School will achieve the aims of this policy through a variety of activities throughout the lifetime of the school (below is a small sample of activities which among others can take place in school)

	When	Activity details	Where	Monitored By
1	Throughout the school life	Teach Islamic values of tolerance	Across the curriculum	HT/SLT/subject teachers

		Forgiveness, Helpfulness, Generosity, Respect, Humility, Neighbourliness		
2	Throughout the school life	Teach about Prophet's (saw) love for all humankind giving specific authentic i. Examples of Qur'anic text ii. Examples from Hadeeth iii. Examples from the life of Sahabas (ra)	Across the curriculum PSHCE Assemblies	HT/SLT
3	Throughout the school life	Engagement with Other faith groups	Interfaith week/programme including of visits to places of worship.	HT/SLT
4	Throughout the school life	Teaching of British values	Citizenship / school activities i.e., school council and annual mock general election	Trustees/HT/ SLT
5	Throughout the school life	Workshops in PSHCE involving the Rochdale prevent unit	RS Teacher Citizenship Teacher	HT/SLT
6	Throughout the school life	<u>Projects</u> • Fund Raising – to instill culture of caring for others, raising funds for both Muslim and non-Muslim charities. • Cross-Curricular Annual Day - to appreciate others' cultures. • Living Islam –increase awareness and remove misconceptions • Feed the homeless/needy • Working with Muslim/non-Muslims to engage with the wider community	• Various days at school • Summer term • All classes • Working with various organizations in the community • Food bank • Residential care homes • Litter picking in the community	HT/RS teacher

If it is found, in any of these or any other school activities that any pupils or groups of pupils agree with the radical narrative then special intervention programmes will be put into place. This will include 1-to-1 mentoring and additional religious literacy to counter the radical and violent extremist narrative.

There will be regular monitoring of the pupil and where necessary, i.e. in extreme cases where it is felt that the pupil(s) is highly vulnerable:

- The school will inform the Trustees and the parents of the pupil/s
- The relevant authorities (Rochdale Prevent Team, local Police enforcement) may be contacted for advice/ action should the need arise.

See appendix 1 for referral procedure

The above also applies to all employees and adults working at the school, whether in a voluntary/ non voluntary capacity.

UNDERSTANDING AND RECOGNISING RISKS AND VULNERABILITIES OF RADICALISATION

Children and young people can be drawn into violence or they can be exposed to the messages of extremist groups by many means.

These can include through the influence of family members or friends and/or direct contact with extremist groups and organisations or, increasingly, through the internet. This can put a young person at risk of being drawn into criminal activity and has the potential to cause **Significant Harm**.

The risk of radicalisation is the product of a number of factors and identifying this risk requires that staff exercise their professional judgement, seeking further advice as necessary. It may be combined with other vulnerabilities or may be the only risk identified.

Potential Indicators Include:

- Use of inappropriate language;
- Possession of violent extremist literature;
- Behavioural changes;
- The expression of extremist views;
- Advocating violent actions and means;
- Association with known extremists;
- Seeking to recruit others to an extremist ideology.

4. VISITORS AND THE USE OF THE SCHOOL PREMISES.

If any member of staff wishes to invite a visitor in the school, they must first complete a visitor request form.

Only after written agreement from the Head Teacher can the visitor enter school and then they will be subject to Safeguarding Checks including DBS checks and photo identification. Children are NEVER left unsupervised with external visitors, regardless of safeguarding check outcomes.

Upon arriving at the school, all visitors including contractors, will read the child protection and safeguarding guidance and be made aware of who the DSLs are and how to report any concerns which they may experience.

If any agreement is made to allow non-school groups or organizations to use the premises, appropriate checks will be made before agreeing to the visit.

Usage will be monitored and in the event of any behaviour not in keeping with this Prevent Policy, the school will contact the police and terminate the visit.

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REVIEW

The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school by teachers, form tutors and the headteacher. The headteacher will assess the implementation and effectiveness of this policy and review the policy periodically, as necessary. Records of incidences will be kept to enable the school to monitor the effectiveness of the policy. The policy will be reviewed annually along with other safeguarding policies.