

Preventing Radicalisation and Extremism

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Thomas Deacon Academy (TDA) fully recognises its responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of children and young people in its care including safeguarding against radicalisation and extremism.
- 1.2 The Academy also has a duty of care to its staff to ensure that adults within its learning community are safeguarded against radicalisation and extremism.
- 1.3 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 & tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.
- 1.4 Radicalisation is defined as the act or process of making a person more radical or favouring of extreme or fundamental changes in political, economic or social conditions, institutions or habits of the mind.
- 1.5 Extremism is defined as the holding of extreme political or religious views.

2. Prevent strategy

- 2.1 TDA takes its responsibility for implementing the Prevent strategy very seriously. The Designated Safeguarding Lead acts as the Single Point of Contact for Prevent.
- 2.2 The designated Academy Committee member meets with the DSL and Safeguarding Officer termly to ensure that the Academy has a clear, effective and up-to-date strategy to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

3. Referral mechanisms

- 3.1 Any member of staff, volunteer or visitor to the Academy who is concerned about a child or adult within the Academy's learning community or receives a disclosure of a radicalisation or extremism nature MUST report it immediately to the designated safeguarding lead or a member of the child protection team.
- 3.2 Any concern received will be investigated by the safeguarding team and the on-site Safer Schools Police Officer. Where necessary referrals will be made to the Prevent team in line with the Channel guidance.

4. Role of the curriculum

- 4.1 Our curriculum promotes compassion, respect, tolerance and diversity. Pupils and 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.
- 4.2 The Personal Development curriculum at Thomas Deacon Academy actively promotes fundamental British values including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect/tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. Personal safety, including safety on the internet, is an integral part of this curriculum and students are taught where to go for help and support if they feel unsafe online.
- 4.3 An open dialogue is encouraged with pupils and students being made aware that they are entitled to have their own beliefs but these should not be used to influence others. The Religious Education curriculum promotes discussion around a range of ethical issues and belief systems.

5. Staff Training

- 5.1 All staff receive Safeguarding and Prevent training, delivered by the DSL, Safeguarding Officer and an online training module, to raise awareness of the Prevent strategy and the indicators of radicalisation and extremism.
- 5.2 A record of staff who have completed Safeguarding and Prevent training is held by the Child Protection Administrator and a log is held on the Smartlog online platform.
- 5.3 When directed by the DfE and/or Police, academy staff will receive updated training materials during the academic year. This will be organised by the DSL and Safeguarding Officer.
- 5.4 Where issues arise in the local community regarding radicalisation or extremist activity, staff will be supported in identifying concerns and remaining vigilant.

6. Parent Communication

- 6.1 We will ensure that parents have an understanding of the Prevent Strategy and provide support and guidance through the Safeguarding section of the Thomas Deacon Academy website.