

# **BHASVIC**

**Preventing Extremism and  
Radicalisation**

**BHASVIC SAFEGUARDING POLICY**

**Addendum 2**

**February 2021**



## Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation - Appendix to Safeguarding Policy (February 2021)

This document should be read in conjunction with:

- Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy
- Prevent Duty Risk Assessment and Action Plan
- Safeguarding SARAP (self-assessment review & action plan)

All documents are updated annually and reviewed by Governors.

### Introduction

BHASVIC is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its students. Every member of staff recognises that safeguarding against radicalisation and extremism is no different to safeguarding against any other vulnerability in today's society. This Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Appendix to our Safeguarding Policy sets out our beliefs, strategies and procedures to protect vulnerable individuals from being radicalised or exposed to extremist views, by identifying who they are and promptly providing them with support.

BHASVIC is committed to providing a secure environment, where all members of the community feel safe and are kept safe. We recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility irrespective of the role they undertake or whether their role has direct contact or responsibility for students or not.

This Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Safeguarding Policy is one element within our overall arrangements to Safeguard and Promote the Welfare of all students in line with our statutory duties set out at s175 of the Education Act 2002. This document also draws upon the guidance contained in the "Pan Sussex Child Protection Procedures" and DfE Guidance "Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2020"<sup>1</sup>

### Extremism and Radicalisation

When operating this policy the college uses the Government's definition of extremism as described in the Prevent Duty: The 'vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values of democracy, rule of law, tolerance and individual liberty'. It also includes calls for the deaths of a member of the armed forces, both in the UK and overseas. 'Hateful' extremism is defined as being a 'framework of behaviours, beliefs, and harms' that are in direct contrast to Britain's commitment to equality and human rights. Radicalisation refers to the process in which a person comes to sympathise with and support terrorist or extremist ideologies. There is no obvious profile of a person that is at risk of radicalisation, and the process itself can be different for each individual and ideology.

As a college, we recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences should be addressed as a safeguarding concern as set out in the main safeguarding policy. We also recognise that if we fail to challenge extremist views we are failing to protect our students. 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.

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[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/836144/Keeping\\_children\\_safe\\_in\\_education\\_part\\_1\\_2019.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/836144/Keeping_children_safe_in_education_part_1_2019.pdf)

Therefore, we will provide a broad and balanced curriculum, delivered by skilled professionals, so that our students are enriched, understand and become tolerant of difference and diversity and also to ensure that they thrive, feel valued and not marginalized.

Furthermore, we are aware that young people can be exposed to extremist influences or prejudiced views from an early age which emanate from a variety of sources and media, including via the internet, and at times students may themselves reflect or display views that may be discriminatory, prejudiced or extremist, including using derogatory language.

Any prejudice, discrimination or extremist views, including derogatory language, displayed by students or staff will always be challenged and where appropriate dealt with in line with our Behaviour Policy and Codes of Conduct.

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

- Disclosures by students of their exposure to the extremist actions, views or materials of others outside college, such as in their homes or community groups, especially where students have not actively sought these out.
- Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images
- Students accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites
- Parental reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance
- Partner colleges, local authority services, and police reports of issues affecting students in other settings
- Students voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives
- 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
- Attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others
- Anti-Western or Anti-British views

Our college will closely follow any locally agreed procedure as set out by the Local Authority and/or the Pan-Sussex Safeguarding Children's Partnership's agreed processes and criteria for safeguarding individuals vulnerable to extremism and radicalisation.

### **Use of External Agencies and Speakers**

At BHASVIC we encourage the use of external agencies or speakers to enrich the experiences of our students. We will assess the suitability and effectiveness of input from external agencies or individuals to ensure that:

- Any messages communicated to students are consistent with the ethos of the college and do not marginalise any communities, groups or individuals
- Any messages do not seek to glorify criminal activity or violent extremism or seek to radicalise students through extreme or narrow views of faith, religion or culture or other ideologies
- Activities are properly embedded in the curriculum and clearly mapped to schemes of work
- Activities are matched to the needs of students
- Activities are evaluated to ensure that they are effective

We recognise, however, that the ethos of our college is to encourage students to understand opposing views and ideologies, and to be able to actively engage with them in informed debate, and we may use external agencies or speakers to facilitate and support this.

Therefore, by delivering a broad and balanced curriculum, augmented by the use of external sources where appropriate, we will strive to ensure our students recognise risk and build resilience to manage any such risk themselves and are helped to develop the critical thinking skills needed to engage in informed debate.

Lead contacts in external work-experience or other voluntary placements which students attend as part of their studies, will be directed towards standard information available on the website on safeguarding policy and procedures, including information regarding the Prevent Duty; and will be made aware of how to report a safeguarding concern, including linked to radicalisation and extremism.

### **Role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Deputy (DDSL)**

The DSL is: **Alison Cousens**

The Deputy DSL is: **Matt Bannister**

- The DSL works in line with the responsibilities as set out in the DfE Guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' and is the senior college leader responsible for the effectiveness of safeguarding on a day-to-day basis.
- The DSL and DDSL are the local 'experts' for college staff, and others, who may have concerns about an individual student's safety or wellbeing and is the first point of contact for external agencies

### **Referrals**

We are aware of the potential indicating factors that a student is vulnerable to being radicalised or exposed to extreme views, including peer pressure, influence from other people or the internet, bullying, crime and anti-social behaviour, family tensions, race/hate crime, lack of self-esteem or identity, prejudicial behaviour and personal or political grievances.

- All incidents will be fully investigated and recorded in line with the Behaviour Policy and records will be kept in line with procedures for any other safeguarding incident.
- Parents/carers will be contacted and the incident discussed in detail, aiming to identify motivating factors, any changes in circumstances at home, parental views of the incident.
- If the college are concerned that someone is vulnerable to radicalisation we have a duty to refer them to the Channel programme. Channel provides support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism.
- Referrals will be made using information and advice on the Pan Sussex Child Protection and Safeguarding [online manual](#)
- There is a single pathway to refer an individual who may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism or extremism in Sussex. If concerned, please complete the [National Prevent Referral Form](#) and email completed forms to:
  - Brighton & Hove referrals: [PreventReferralsbrightonandhove@sussex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:PreventReferralsbrightonandhove@sussex.pnn.police.uk)
  - East Sussex referrals: [PreventReferralsseastsussex@sussex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:PreventReferralsseastsussex@sussex.pnn.police.uk)
  - West Sussex referrals: [PreventReferralswestsussex@sussex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:PreventReferralswestsussex@sussex.pnn.police.uk)

The completed Prevent form will go to:

- Prevent Policing Team (for initial screening and to consider if suitable to discuss at the Channel Panel);
- Front Door For Families (Brighton & Hove)/ SPOA (East Sussex)/ [MASH](#) (West Sussex)

### **Training**

Whole college in-service training on Safeguarding and Child Protection in relation to the Prevent Duty will be organised for staff and governors at least every three years and will include training on extremism and radicalisation and its safeguarding implications. More regular bulletins and updates on the Counter Terrorism Local Profile will be shared with all stakeholders (students, staff, parents/carers & Governors) as appropriate. The DSL, DDSL and frontline safeguarding team will attend training courses as necessary and the appropriate inter-agency training organised by the Local Safeguarding Children Board at least every two years.

## **Recruitment**

The arrangements for recruiting all staff, permanent and volunteers, to our college will follow guidance for safer recruitment best practice in education settings, including, but not limited to, ensuring that DBS checks are always made at the appropriate level, that references are always received and checked and that we complete and maintain a single central record of such vetting checks.

We will apply safer recruitment best practice principles and sound employment practice in general and in doing so will deny opportunities for inappropriate recruitment or advancement. We will be alert to the possibility that persons may seek to gain positions within our college so as to unduly influence our college's character and ethos. We are aware that such persons seek to render students vulnerable to extremist views and radicalisation. Therefore, by adhering to safer recruitment best practice techniques and by ensuring that there is an ongoing culture of vigilance within our college, we will minimise the opportunities for extremist views to prevail.

## **Role of Governing Body**

The Governing Body of the College will undertake appropriate training to ensure that they are clear about their role and the parameters of their responsibilities as Governors, including their statutory safeguarding duties. They will support the ethos and values of our college and will support the college in tackling extremism and radicalisation.

In line with the provisions set out in the DfE guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' the Governing body will monitor the college's senior management team on the delivery of the safeguarding policy and this appendix on the Prevent Duty, counter terrorism, extremism and radicalisation.

Governors will review this appendix regularly and may amend and adopt outside of this timeframe in accordance with any new legislation or guidance or in response to any quality assurance recommendations made.

## **USEFUL INFORMATION & LINKS:**

- Counter Terrorism action: [ACT Early | Prevent radicalisation](#)
- Practical advice, support and resources to protect children from extremism and radicalisation: [Educate Against Hate - Prevent Radicalisation & Extremism](#)
- Anti – far right and extremist campaigning group: [HOPE not hate](#)
- TELL MAMA (anti Muslim attacks): [About Us \(tellmamauk.org\)](#)
- REPORT HATE CRIME: [Report hate crime - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)