

Prevent Policy

Hopes and Dreams Montessori Nursery Schools RP523735

Applies to:

Hopes and Dreams Montessori Nursery Schools City Limited (Ofsted ID: 131700)

Hopes and Dreams Montessori Nursery Schools Worship Street (Ofsted ID: 2837915)

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1. Scope and Application

- 1.1 This policy applies to: **Hopes and Dreams Montessori Nursery Schools RP523735**
- Hopes and Dreams Montessori Nursery Schools City Limited (Ofsted ID: 131700)**
- Hopes and Dreams Montessori Nursery Schools Worship Street (Ofsted ID: 2837915)**
- 1.2 Under this policy all employees, including directors, apprentices, casual workers, whether on permanent or temporary contracts are collectively referred to as '**staff**'.
- 1.3 This policy does not form part of any contract and Hopes and Dreams Montessori Nursery Schools may amend it at any time.

2. Policy Aims

- 2.1 The aim of this policy is to ensure that staff understand how to comply with Hopes and Dreams Montessori Nursery Schools' Prevent duty and help to build children's resilience to radicalisation by promoting British values and feeling empowered to challenge extremist views.
- 2.2 Hopes and Dreams Montessori Nursery Schools has a legal duty to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

3. The Prevent duty

- 3.1 The government has defined extremism in the [Prevent Strategy](#) as: "*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.*"
- 3.2 Safeguarding children from radicalisation and extremism is no different than safeguarding from other forms of harm. Radicalisation is a process through which a person begins to adopt the extreme political, religious or ideologies. Where as terrorism refers to the use of violence or the threat of violence by individuals and groups with goals of achieving political, ideological and religious aims. For example, if you suspect a child is at risk of or has been abused in this way, there is a mandatory duty to report this and the usual Safeguarding process applies. Also, if you suspect a parent or colleague are being targeted by or supporting groups who may promote violent extremist activities then the safeguarding process also applies.
- 3.3 Support can be given to a child/family who may be at risk. The Department of Education states that all providers should promote British Values and providers must also be proactive in challenging or discouraging traits or behaviours that oppose British Values. It is therefore vital that staff are trained and aware of the Prevent duty and British Values, what these entail and actively use this knowledge in their everyday practise.
- 3.4 In summary, staff should promote:

- 3.4.1 Democracy;
- 3.4.2 The Rule of Law;
- 3.4.3 Individual Liberty;
- 3.4.4 Mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs,
and understand it is unacceptable to:
- 3.4.5 Promote intolerance of other faiths, cultures and races;
- 3.4.6 Fail to challenge gender stereotypes and to routinely separate boys and girls;
- 3.4.7 Isolate children from their wider community; and
- 3.4.8 Fail to challenge behaviours that are not in line with British Values.

4. What are the signs staff should look for?

- 4.1 There are many signs which could indicate that someone has been or is being radicalised. Some of these are:
- 4.2 Behavioural indicators:
 - 4.2.1 Major behavioural changes;
 - 4.2.2 Change in appearance;
 - 4.2.3 Isolation from peers;
 - 4.2.4 Talking a lot about another person who exerts a lot of influence;
 - 4.2.5 Association with only one group of people;
 - 4.2.6 Withdrawn from family members; or
 - 4.2.7 Additional vulnerability risk factors: special educational needs, mental health issues, drug / alcohol issues, offending behaviour, relationship issues.
- 4.3 Critical Risk Factors:
 - 4.3.1 In contact with extremist recruiters;
 - 4.3.2 Articulating support for violent extremist causes / leaders;
 - 4.3.3 Accessing violent extremist websites; especially those with a social networking element;

- 4.3.4 Possessing / accessing violent extremist literature;
 - 4.3.5 Using extremist narratives and a global ideology to explain personal disadvantage;
 - 4.3.6 Justifying the use of violence to solve societal issues;
 - 4.3.7 Joining / seeking to join extremist organisations; or
 - 4.3.8 Significant changes to appearance and / or behaviour.
- 4.4 The majority of these signs and behavioural indicators would not be apparent in young children. However, it is important to remember that we have a duty to safeguard and protect everyone, including staff, parents and families. As such, staff should be aware of these signs and be vigilant.
- 4.5 Young children that are being exposed to radicalisation may:
- 4.5.1 Behave in a way that is not typical for their age.
 - 4.5.2 Repeat words or phrases that you would not expect a child to know (sounds like an older person/ can sometimes say things that could be considered to be propaganda .
 - 4.5.3 Show intolerance for other cultures, faiths or backgrounds.
 - 4.5.4 Roleplay in an aggressive manner, imitating soldiers, guns etc.
- 4.6 As with any safeguarding concern, sometimes the biggest indicator is your instinct. If you feel that something is not quite right then you must discuss your concerns with your DSL.
- 5. What staff should do if a child is seen as at risk of radicalisation**
- 5.1 It is everyone's duty to prevent and / or refer terrorism and radicalisation. And staff should use their professional judgement in identifying children who might be at risk and act proportionately.
- 5.2 Staff should follow the Hopes and Dreams Montessori Nursery Schools' normal referral processes in the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy when there are concerns about children who may be at risk of being drawn into terrorism, as set out above. This may include a Prevent referral or referral to children's social care depending on the level of risk.
- Link: [National Prevent referral form](#).
- 5.3 However, if staff have concerns that there is an immediate/significant risk of a child being drawn into terrorism they must call 999 and/or submit a referral form to their local Prevent partner immediately. Advice and support can also be sought from children's social care.

- 5.4 Hopes and Dreams Montessori Nursery Schools, in recognition that children may be at risk of being drawn into terrorism or other forms of extremism, carries out appropriate risk assessments (following consultation with local partners, such as the Police) of the potential risk in the local area. Such risk assessments are discussed with the Head of Nursery, Principal DSL and Head of safeguarding and Compliance responsible for safeguarding to ensure the Hopes and Dreams Montessori Nursery Schools' safeguarding arrangements are sufficiently robust to help prevent and protect children from being drawn into terrorism and are regularly revised as needed.
- 5.5 The Prevent Lead at the nursery is the Head of Nursery.