



## PREVENT Statement

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|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Date of policy                  | November 2019  |
| Review Cycle                    | Annually       |
| Review Date                     | November 2020  |
| Signature of Chair of Governors | Janet Saunders |

**This policy should be read in conjunction with:**  
Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

## **Belmont Academy**

### **Statement on preventing radicalisation**

Belmont Academy's Prevent Strategy has been written in response to and in line with the 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 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

All schools are required by law to teach a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes the spiritual, moral and cultural development of students and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.

The purpose of the Belmont Academy 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. To this end it acts to:

- Raise awareness
- Provide information
- Enable learners to make a positive contribution
- Safeguard young people

#### **Risk**

The current threat from extremism and radicalisation in the UK can include the exploitation of vulnerable people, to involve them in terrorism or in activity in support of terrorism. The normalisation of extreme views may also make children and young people vulnerable to future manipulation and exploitation. Belmont Academy is clear that this exploitation and radicalisation should be viewed as a safeguarding concern and that both staff and governors, under their duty of care of students, have explicit responsibilities to safeguard pupils from the risk of falling under the influence of extremist groups and individuals and potentially even being drawn into terrorism. The staff are alert to the potential dangers of institutional complacency and/or suspended professional disbelief – 'it could not happen here' – and will put in place strategies to ensure that governors, staff, parents and pupils understand the potential threat and are aware of the indicators of vulnerability.

In discharging this duty of care, the school seeks to protect children and young people against the messages of all violent extremism delivered using any means or medium to express views which:

- Encourage, justify or glorify political, religious, sexist or racist violence
- Belong to rigid and narrow ideologies that are intolerant of diversity and so leave those who hold them vulnerable to future radicalisation
- Seek to provoke others to terrorist acts
- Encourage other serious criminal activity or seek to provoke others to serious criminal acts
- Foster hatred which might lead to inter-community violence in the UK

### **What has already been done to address this risk?**

At Belmont, pupils participate in a curriculum that promotes active learning and develops personal thinking skills. The curriculum is underpinned by pastoral care that ensures pupils develop the skills to be able to develop social and emotional aspects of their learning. The school actively promotes diversity and is aware of the vulnerability of pupils being exposed to the risk of right wing extremism within the local community. The school challenges all prejudices recognising students who are at risk of isolation. The explicit teaching of pastoral care, the use of policies, school assemblies, the SEAL PSHE scheme of work, enrichment activities and the support of the Leader of pastoral care ensure that the school is a safe place to learn and socialise. The school seeks justice for inappropriate behaviour choices and uses restorative approaches to repair harm when caused.

The school has already undertaken a range of activities/initiatives to raise awareness of the issues with both staff and pupils to ensure that the school community understands what to do and who to go to if they have any concerns around the potential radicalisation of a member of the school community. These include:

- A staff session on Prevent Training, designed to increase confidence in identifying pupils at risk of being drawn into terrorism.
- A staff session within the federation to raise awareness and share key indicators of pupils at risk of being drawn into terrorism.
- Completion by staff of the online Prevent training presented by the government
- Training for governors led by the LEA.
- IT filtering systems are used passively to block users from accessing inappropriate websites.
- Updated and renewed Safeguarding Policy that takes account of the Prevent Strategy, has been ratified by governors and is available on the school website.
- Regular liaison with local neighbourhood police team to ensure that good partnership links exist and that information is regularly shared.

### **What do we plan to do in the future?**

- Put in place any strategies that are indicated in light of the risk assessment referred to above.
- Provide Prevent training for new staff/governors as part of their induction
- Ensure that staff, governors and parents are aware of the indicators of vulnerability and the potential risks within the local community.
- Foster a climate that ensures that the whole school community takes the threat of radicalisation seriously.

### **Channel**

Channel is a programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. The programme uses a multi-agency approach to protect vulnerable people by:

- a. identifying individuals at risk;
- b. assessing the nature and extent of that risk; and
- c. developing the most appropriate support plan for the individuals concerned.

Channel may be appropriate for anyone who is vulnerable to being drawn into any form of terrorism. Channel is about ensuring that vulnerable children and adults of any faith, ethnicity or

background receive support before their vulnerabilities are exploited by those that would want them to embrace terrorism, and before they become involved in criminal terrorist related activity.

Success of the programme is very much dependent on the co-operation and co-ordinated activity of partners. It works best when the individuals and their families fully engage with the programme and are supported in a consistent manner.

The police co-ordinate activity by requesting relevant information from panel partners about a referred individual. They will use this information to make an initial assessment of the nature and extent of the vulnerability which the person has. The information will then be presented to a panel.

Local authorities have to ensure that a multi-agency panel exists in their area and chair the panel. The panel develop a support plan for individuals accepted as Channel cases and consider alternative forms of support, including health and social services, where Channel is not appropriate; and e. all partners of a panel (as specified in Schedule 7), so far as appropriate and reasonably practicable, to cooperate with the police and the panel in the carrying out of their functions.

### **Preventing extremism in schools and children's services**

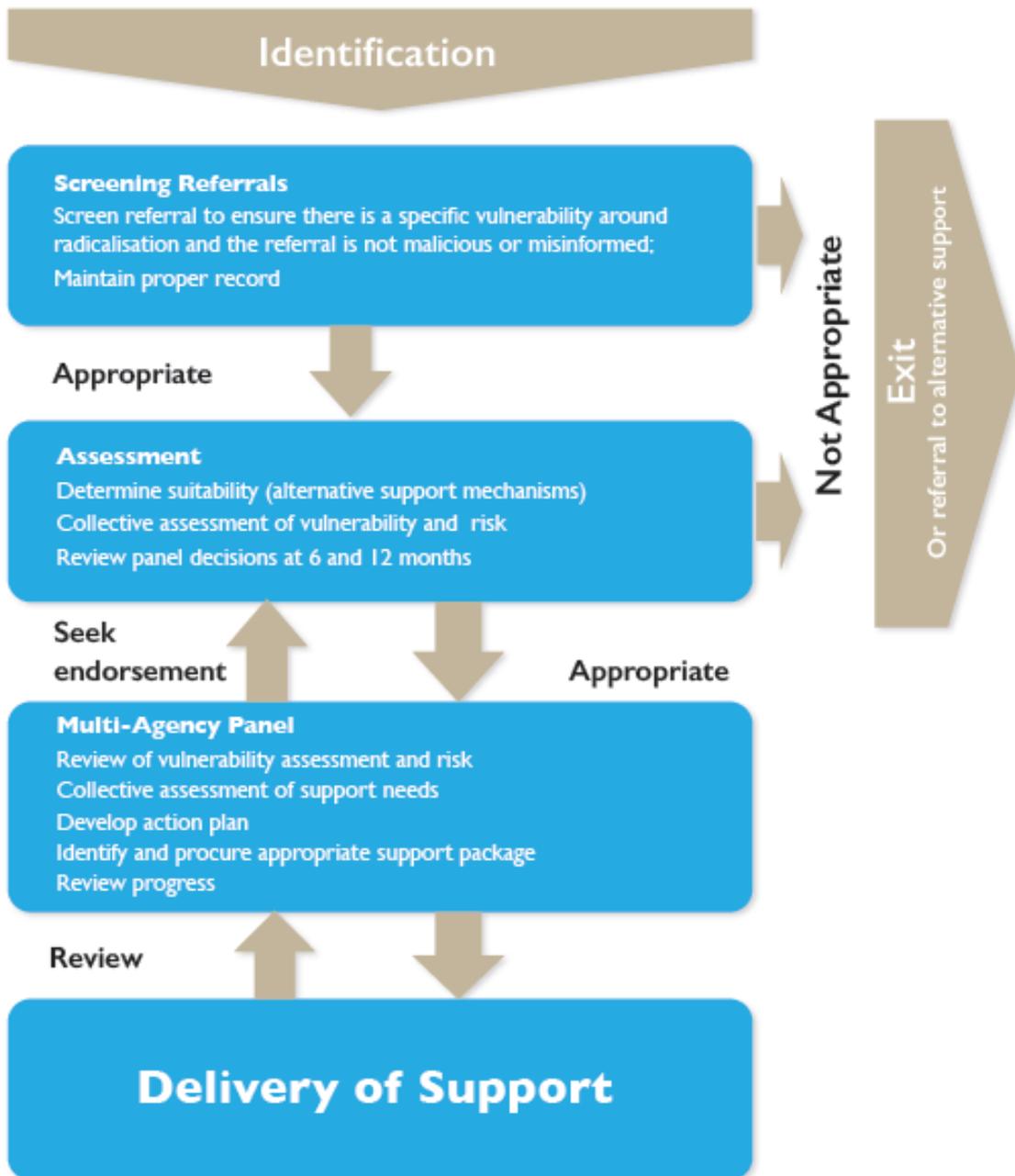
Email [counter.extremism@education.gov.uk](mailto:counter.extremism@education.gov.uk)

Telephone 020 7340 7264

If you are concerned about extremism in a school or organisation that works with children, or if you think a child might be at risk of extremism, contact our helpline.

Open Monday to Friday from 9am to 6pm (excluding bank holidays).

The diagram below outlines the different stages within the Channel process:



**Further information:**

- DFE guidance: Preventing Children from radicalisation
- Home Office: Prevent duty guidance from England
- Channel Duty Guidance (HM Government guidance)