

## POLICY STATEMENT ON PREVENT AND BRITISH VALUES

Policy author	Deputy Head
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DSL Deputy	Sue Carney
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This policy applies to all pupils and staff of the school. The school aims to prepare its pupils fully for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life in British society.

At Cobham Hall we believe it is every teacher's duty to actively promote British values and to actively challenge the expression of views which disagree with them. British values include:

- Democracy
- Respect for the rule of law
- Mutual respect for different faiths and beliefs
- Individual liberty

At Cobham Hall our values of 'Trust, Respect, Honesty, Tolerance and Kindness' exemplifies our attitude and approach to the importance of British values in the education of our pupils. As such we firmly believe in the education of the "whole child" and recognise the importance in preparing pupils for life in modern Britain. British values are taught across both the academic and co-curricular programmes, in assemblies, in tutor time and in Wellbeing.

By providing opportunities for pupils to learn about and discuss British Values, we want our pupils to:

- Be confident and have a high degree of self esteem
- Be conscientious and law-abiding citizens
- Distinguish between right and wrong and excel in high moral behaviour
- Respect the civil and criminal laws of England
- Respect democracy and support participation in the democratic processes
- Understand that people enjoy a number of rights that are protected by law in The Human Rights Act and Equality Act 2010
- Accept responsibility for their own behaviour
- Be considerate and understand how they can serve others
- Contribute towards the society in which they live
- Be confident about expressing their own faith and culture in a loving and considerate fashion
- Understand that modern Britain is a multi-cultural society
- Be tolerant and respectful towards others with different faiths and beliefs

## **Democracy**

Democracy is a state of society characterised by equality of rights and privileges. It can also refer to our nation's electoral systems.

In school we promote the importance of democracy through a variety of ways, such as;

- The Year 12 Guardian Convention where the Student Leadership Team are elected with a fair electoral process
- The student council which is elected from the students and is used to represent their views and desires of the pupils themselves
- Dedicated Tutor time covers a range of topics in relation to democracy in all form
- Model United Nations (MUN) is run as a club
- Various student committees such as food committee and the Round Square committee
- School's core values were chosen by a democratic process
- Assemblies

## **Rule of Law**

All people and institutions are subject to and accountable to law that is fairly applied and enforced.

In school we promote the importance of the rule of law through such things as;

- There is a shared School Code of Conduct for teachers and pupils
- We have high expectations of pupil conduct and this is reflected in our Behaviour Policy
- In Wellbeing lessons British Values are studied on how the law is there to keep us safe and the consequences of breaking the law
- Assemblies

## **Mutual Respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs**

In school we promote the importance of mutual respect through such things as;

- Promoting tolerance of those with protected characteristics under the Equalities Act (2010) and challenging any expression of intolerance
- Tolerance is one of the school's core values
- Classroom code of conduct
- Ethos and values of the school
- Clear guidance on good behaviour
- The publishing and enforcement of an appropriate dress code for students and staff
- Through the skills developed in lessons and Tutor time
- Assemblies

## **Individual Liberty**

Individual liberty suggests the free exercise of rights generally seen as outside of Government control.

In school we promote the importance of individual liberty through such things as;

- The increasing liberty and responsibility afforded to students as they move up through the school

- Students are encouraged to voice their views in a formative manner and to think for themselves
- Students are offered autonomy over choices regarding academic pathways, in particular the choosing of their GCSE and A Level options
- The importance of liberty is highlighted in teaching of such topics as Votes for Women and the Suffragette movement, Human Rights, Holocaust etc. Students also participate in the MUN
- Students are taught about their right to be safe; including e-safety
- Students are encouraged to take opportunities to follow their own interests in art, music, sport as part of our extra-curricular programme

### **The National Prevent Strategy**

Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty on certain authorities (including schools), in the exercise of their functions, to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”.

This duty is part of the Prevent Strategy (2011).

The Prevent strategy recognises the link between terrorist groups and terrorism and extremist ideology. Some people who join terrorist groups have been previously radicalised by them. Extremism is defined 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. We also include within our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces.”

The strategy deals with ‘all forms of terrorism and non-violent extremism, which can create an atmosphere conducive to terrorism and can popularise views with terrorists can then exploit’. At Cobham Hall we recognise that this will range far more widely than ISIL/anti-western terrorism and includes animal rights extreme activism and far-right nationalism. The strategy also makes clear ‘that preventing people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism requires challenge to extremist ideas where they are used to legitimise terrorism and are shared by terrorist groups. The strategy also means intervening to stop people moving from extremist (albeit legal) groups into terrorist related activity.’

Cobham Hall School supports the Home Office Prevent strategy to combat radicalisation and terrorism. This strategy can be defined in terms of the 4Ps:

- **Protect** - to strengthen protection against a terrorist attack in the UK or against its interests overseas and so reduce their vulnerability. This work focuses on border security, the transport system, national infrastructure and public places
- **Prepare** - to mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack where that attack cannot be stopped. This includes work to bring a terrorist attack to an end and to increase the UK's resilience to facilitate recovery from its aftermath
- **Pursue** - to stop terrorist attacks by detecting, prosecuting and otherwise disrupting those who plot to carry out attacks against the UK or its interests overseas
- **Prevent** - to stop people from becoming or supporting terrorism. This includes countering terrorist ideology and challenging those who promote it; supporting individuals who are especially vulnerable to becoming radicalised; and working with sectors and institutions where the risk of radicalisation is assessed to be high.

Cobham Hall is ‘subject to the duty to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. Being drawn into terrorism includes not just violent extremism but also non-

violent extremism, which can create an atmosphere conducive to terrorism and can popularise views which suspects exploit. Schools should be safe places in which children and young people can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and the extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology, and learn how to challenge these ideas. The Prevent strategy should not limit discussion of these issues. School should be mindful of their existing duties to forbid political indoctrination and secure a balanced presentation of political issues.'

This strategy is supported at Cobham Hall in the following ways:

## Action Plan

**Below are the steps that Cobham Hall has taken to comply with the Prevent Strategy.**

**1. Raising Awareness of the issue of radicalisation with staff and the governing body** so that those who work with young people at Cobham Hall appreciate that they are a front line strategy, and act accordingly. All Staff receive appropriate training to give them confidence to identify children at risk and so that they know where to go for further support. Training for new staff will be given in conjunction with usual safeguarding training.

Actions:

- Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Deputy Safeguarding Lead attend Prevent Training such as a Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent (WRAP) given by the police
- DSL oversees the risk assessment for the School and this is shown to the Prevent Officer
- All staff take certificated online Prevent training through EduCare
- DSL liaises with Prevent Officer to discuss issues most relevant to Cobham Hall students
- Staff receive training on Radicalisation and Grooming and Governors take certificated online Prevent training through Educare
- All school trips must have Prevent as part of the Risk Assessment
- All academic staff are responsible for carrying out checks on their visiting speakers and workshop leaders
- Work on-going to devise parent, staff and pupil sessions on Prevent throughout the year

**2. Raising student awareness through the curriculum both academic and extra-curricular.** This will be addressed both discreetly within certain curriculum areas where a clear understanding of history / religion / tradition promotes an appropriate understanding of the origins of movements such as Nazism and promoting an understanding of world religions based on peaceful messages and intent.

- Internet and Digital Awareness (including parent, staff and pupil sessions)
- Extremism (including debates around freedom of speech)
- Extra-curricular clubs promote debate, for example, Model United Nations
- Politics is an A' Level option

**3. Creating an inclusive school,** which appreciates the importance of SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) and delivers it through a shared curriculum for all, encouraging full participation in a broad and balanced curriculum, including the Pastoral curriculum, which celebrates the diversity of the school community and aims to make students feel valued and included. We are a member of Round Square, an organisation based on tolerance for internationalism.

**4. Responding to concerns.** Concerns raised by staff or other students are investigated as Safeguarding issues according to the school safeguarding protocol and policy. As such, the DSL now assumes the additional responsibilities for Prevent and acts as a single point of contact. The school will maintain records of any concerns raised and action taken in line with existing safeguarding procedures.

**5. Robust Safeguarding protocols and procedures.** Cobham Hall is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its students. As a school we recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation is no different from safeguarding against any other vulnerability. Channel assesses vulnerability using a consistently applied vulnerability framework built around three dimensions. The three dimensions are:

- **Engagement** with group, cause or ideology;
- **Intent** to cause harm; and
- **Capability** to cause harm

Therefore, as part of wider safeguarding responsibilities staff will be alert to and report using the following Safeguarding protocol:

1. Disclosures by students of their exposure to the extremist actions, views or materials of others outside of school, such as in their homes or community groups
2. Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images
3. Students accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites
4. Parental reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance
5. Other local schools, local authority services, and police reports of issues affecting their students
6. Pupils voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives
7. Use of extremist or 'hate' terms to exclude others or incite violence
8. Intolerance of difference, whether secular or religious or, in line with our equalities policy, views based on, but not exclusive to, gender, gender orientation, disability, sexuality, race, colour or culture
9. Attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others
10. Anti-Western or Anti-British views

**6. Clear channels of communication for passing on concerns.** Any concerns should be referred to the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). Radicalisation is a **safeguarding** matter. The DSL will refer the case to Kelsi in Kent.

**7. Internet monitoring.** Cobham Hall School uses an IT filtering system which applies pre-defined rules to screen and filters all internet traffic coming through the school's networks. Websites with radicalised content are filtered out through this system. In addition, the IT filtering system monitors all requests to external websites from within the school's network, including access to radical sites. Concerns are reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

**8. Use of External Agencies and Speakers.** External agencies or speakers can enrich the experiences of our students, however we will endeavour to ensure that we do not unwittingly use agencies that are inconsistent with or are in complete opposition to these values.

Speakers will be assessed on a case by case basis and all staff inviting in external speakers complete a risk assessment vetted by the DSL prior to the speaker's arrival.

#### **Prevent Officer contact details**

County Lead for Prevent

Nick Wilkinson [nick.wilkinson@kent.gov.uk](mailto:nick.wilkinson@kent.gov.uk)

Prevent Education Officer (PEO), Kent and Medway, Ms Sally Green 03000413439

[Sally.green2@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Sally.green2@kent.gov.uk)

County Channel Panel referral form (<https://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/partnerships/prevent-duty-delivery-board-pddb>)

Kent Early Help (<https://www.kelsi.org.uk/special-education-needs/integrated-childrens-services/early-help-contacts/gravesham>) or the Central Referral Unit 03000 41 11 11

**Staff**

The DfE dedicated telephone helpline & mailbox for non-emergency advice on 020 7340 7264, [counter-extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:counter-extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk)