**Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy**

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<th>Approved by the Management Committee on:</th>
<th>18th October, 2018</th>
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<td>Responsible person:</td>
<td>Sunil Vyakaranam</td>
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<td>School’s annual review date:</td>
<td>September 2019</td>
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<td>Next review date:</td>
<td>October 2020</td>
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**Introduction:**

City of Birmingham School (COBS) is committed to providing a safe environment for pupils and staff. Safeguarding takes the highest priority and is the responsibility of everyone in the school community. The school’s Management Committee has a responsibility to ensure that the school has a clear approach to implementing the Prevent duty and in keeping pupils safe from the dangers of radicalisation and extremism.

“Safeguarding vulnerable people from radicalisation is no different from safeguarding them from other forms of harm” (Home Office Prevent Strategy, 2015)

The definition of radicalisation is “The process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism” (Prevent Strategy)

The definition of extremism is “Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British Values including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual tolerance of different faiths and beliefs: and/or calls for the death of members of the armed forces, whether in this country or overseas” (Home Office Prevent Strategy, 2015)

This policy is one element within COBS’ overall arrangements for the safeguarding and welfare of pupils and staff.

**Aims and Objectives:**

This policy aims to provide the framework for dealing with issues relating to vulnerability, radicalisation and exposure to extreme views. The objectives are that:

- All members of the Management Committee and members of staff will understand what radicalisation and extremism are and why schools need to be vigilant
- All members of the Management Committee and members of staff will know what the school policy is on extremism and radicalisation and will follow the policy guidelines
- All members of staff are able to identify pupils who may be vulnerable to radicalisation and respond by following the school’s safeguarding procedures immediately
• All pupils will understand the dangers of radicalisation and exposure to extremist views; will be able to build resilience towards such views through personal support and a curriculum that promotes tolerance, social, moral, spiritual and cultural awareness and that promotes the concept of British Values

• All parents/carers will know that the school has policies in place to keep pupils safe from harm and that these are regularly reviewed and made available

Statement of Intent:

At COBS there is no place for extremist views of any kind, whether from inside the school or from external influences. We strive to provide a safe, secure and engaging environment in which pupils can learn, succeed and go on to take their place in the wider world after statutory schooling ends as good citizens of Great Britain. Extremist views and attitudes will be robustly challenged and where these views are discovered, we will work with the pupil, the family and other agencies to provide support and take the necessary action. We are an inclusive school where people of different faiths, cultures, nationalities and beliefs are accepted as full members of our school community. Anything that jeopardises the safe, purposeful and positive relationships that we are so proud of will not be tolerated.

The Curriculum:

COBS provides pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum, tailored to meet the needs of individuals. We have high expectations of our pupils and set ambitious targets for their progress, academically and socially. All lessons will address the social, moral, cultural and spiritual dimensions of learning and will promote British values. The themes of tolerance, respect and acceptance run through the learning experiences provided at COBS and these provide a powerful antidote to the sort of disaffection that can lead to extremist views and radicalisation developing. We encourage pupils to have a strong voice in influencing the decisions made on their behalf e.g. through student council meetings and through lively debate in lessons such as English and PSHE. We actively encourage parental and community engagement through a variety of means such as invitations to events including coffee mornings, open days and visits to places of local interest. E safety takes a high priority at COBS with all pupils taught about the safe use of the Internet and other technologies as well as the dangers associated with grooming and how to keep safe online.

Partnership Working:

We have good relationships with a range of agencies such as the Police, Social Services, Voluntary organisations and the Local Authority all of whom will offer support and advice to pupils, parents and staff when it is needed. We also attend all ‘safeguarding updates’ where information from the LA and Birmingham LSCB are disseminated.

Training:

WRAP training (Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent) has been made available to a number of key staff and the ‘Prevent training’ has been undertaken by all staff. This will be regularly repeated. Some staff will also be trained in Pathways, a curriculum resource aimed at Years 9, 10 and 11, to raise awareness and understanding of the risks associated with radicalisation and extremism through the Prevent strategy.
The Role of the Management Committee:
The Management Committee of the school will undertake appropriate training to ensure that they are clear about the parameters of their role and their responsibilities to COBS; this will include undertaking any statutory training and holding the Senior Leadership Team of the school to account. They will ensure that this policy is reviewed annually and may adapt or amend it outside of this time frame should circumstances demand e.g. a change in legislation or guidance or in the light of any event that might warrant a review. The named member for the PRU Management Committee is Barry Bowles – Deputy Chair and has the designated role for Safeguarding.

What to do if there are concerns relating to radicalisation or extremism:

At COBS every Head of Centre is also the Designated Senior Lead for Child Protection. Any concern relating to a pupil should first be discussed with the Head of Centre who will take the appropriate action.

Concerns relating to the actions of staff should also be reported to the Head of Centre who will take advice from the Senior Leadership Team on the management of the situation. Any person connected with COBS e.g. parent/carer, member of staff or Governor can contact the Police for advice and support.

Links to other legislation.

- Prevent Duty and Guidance in England and Wales. 2015
- How social media is used to encourage travel to Syria and Iraq. Briefing note for schools. 2015
- Race Equality Policy
- Race Equality Scheme
- Human Rights Act 1998

Linked COBS Policies

- COBS Equality Opportunities Policy 2013.
- COBS Community Cohesion Policy
- COBS E-Safety Policy
- COBS No Platform Policy
- PSHEE Policy
- SMSC Policy

Useful Websites.

- Iscbirmingham.gov.uk Birmingham Local Safeguarding Board.
- Gov.UK. (see: ‘Counter-Terrorism).
- www.Educate against hate.com counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk

Key Contacts.

Jon Needham. Schools Safeguarding Adviser. Birmingham Local Authority.
Anti-terrorist hotline. 0800 789 321