**Extremism and Radicalisation Policy**

Cygnets Nursery recognises its responsibilities for tackling extremism in all forms and its responsibilities in protecting children/young people from exposure to all types of radicalisation.

This Extremism and Radicalisation Policy is intended to provide us with a framework of dealing with issues of vulnerability, exposure to extreme views and ideologies which are seen to be inflammatory and against the ethos of our nursery.

We recognise we are in an important position to identify the early signs, looking to safeguard and protect children who are susceptible and vulnerable. We recognise the need to respond in taking appropriate action to prevent extremist views and ideologies developing alongside providing a broad curriculum. This policy sets out how we will deal with this.

Our parents and carers also need an understanding of the issues being well informed of our efforts at every opportunity in order that parents and carers are clear about how the nursery will deal with such incidents including how our curriculum and ethos underpins our actions.

Effective engagement with our parents/family’s are also important as they are in a key position to spot signs of radicalisation. It is important to assist and advise families who raise concerns and point them in the right direction for support.

The Tackling Extremism & Radicalisation Policy is linked to the following policies:

•Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy

•Equality & Diversity Policy

•Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy

•A British values statement

In tackling extremism and radicalisation we will take account of the following national guidelines and legislation:

•CONTEST (Counter Terrorist Strategy) 2011

•Prevent Duty Guidance for specified local authorities HMI June 2015

•Channel Duty Guidance 2015

•Counter Terrorism & Security Act 2015

•The Prevent Duty, DFE Departmental advice for schools and child care providers 2015

Section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty upon Local Authorities and all specified settings including Schools in the exercise of their functions to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from been drawn into terrorism”. It is applied to bodies in the UK who have significant interaction with people vulnerable to radicalisation.

We are required in our functions under section 26 to:

•Know about and Identify early indicators in pupils.

•Develop the confidence to challenge and intervene.

•Assess the risk of our pupils being drawn into terrorism and terrorist ideology.

•Have clear protocols & keep records.

•Be monitored by Ofsted in how we exercise these duties.

We therefore recognise the Prevent strategy is part of the overall Counter Terrorism Strategy, CONTEST in the UK. The aim of Prevent is to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorist or supporting terrorism.

We understand Channel to be an element of the Prevent strategy aimed at stopping vulnerable people being drawn into terrorism, a programme working to challenge extremist ideas who work with individuals including children and young people.

We will work with the Local Authority and with other agencies in making sure we undertake our duties under Prevent.

We recognise that extremism is defined as the holding of extreme political or religious views. It is a vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and the tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We also include in our definition any calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or abroad.

We recognise radicalisation as the process by which people come to support terrorism, violent extremism and, in some cases, to then participate in terrorist groups, which can mean leaving their country to pursue this.

We recognise that children / young people can be enticed into radicalisation as they are more vulnerable and susceptible to this. They therefore can be drawn into violence or they can be exposed to the messages of extremist groups by many means.

Messages, views, ideologies that are extremist can come from parents/carers, family members or friends, and/or from direct contact with member groups and organisations. It can come from staff within an organisation, or be brought into nursery by staff or volunteers.

The risk of radicalisation is the product of a number of factors and identifying this risk requires all our staff to exercise their judgement in raising any concern and reporting to the appropriate leads within the nursery.

We understand the following concerns as some indicators of vulnerability in children / young people to radicalisation and ones that are based upon research and from examples of case studies but that there is no definitive list and all these following concerns, indicators, factors and risk indicators are to be taken into account:

•Identity Crisis – distance from cultural/religious heritage and uncomfortable with their place in society around them;

•Personal Crisis – family tensions, sense of isolation, adolescence, low self-esteem, disassociation with existing friendship groups, becoming involved in new and different groups of friends, searching for answers to questions about identity, faith and belonging;

•Personal Circumstances – migration, local community tensions, events affecting country or region of origin, having a sense of grievance that is triggered by personal experience racism, discrimination or aspects of government policy;

•Unmet Aspirations – perceptions of injustice, feeling of failure, rejection of civic life;

•Criminality – experiences of imprisonment, poor resettlement/reintegration, previous involvement with criminal groups.

We recognise the following potential diagnostic Indicators identified in the CHANNEL Guidance which include:

Use of language seen to be inappropriate (e.g. causing distress or alarm and perceived to be prejudiced, inflammatory, or hateful).

•Noticeable behavioural changes.

•Expression of extreme views.

•Possession of extremist literature.

•Advocating violent actions and means.

•Seeking to recruit others to an extremist ideology.

We also understand these critical risk factors which indicate a possible process of potential grooming/entrapment:

•Changes in faith/ideology.

•Sudden name change linked to a different faith/ideology.

•Significant changes in appearance.

•Narrow/limited religious or political view.

•Isolation from usual friends, family or social groups.

•Sudden unexplained foreign travel.

We will assess and monitor the risk of children being drawn into terrorism; the general risks may vary from area to area, and according to their age, local threat and proportionality.

We will use our Child Protection/Safeguarding Report form used to raise safeguarding concerns in the nursery on an individual pupil and a risk assessment if the concern is a Prevent concern. If the concern is a Prevent concern we will use the guidance and assessment as prescribed by the local authority.

We will work to ensure that the children will be skilled and equipped to be resilient and resist involvement in extreme or radical activities. Therefore we recognise the need to build resilience in our pupils to make them less vulnerable.

We will therefore provide a broad and balanced curriculum within which we aim to support pupils, Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development (SMSC). SMSC development is promoted through all our subjects, including the ethos of the nursery where development of positive attitudes and values is central to everything we do.

Values underpinning public life in the UK have been summarised as democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect, and the tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. It is important that our pupils understand this through different approaches using a balanced and broad curriculum. This supports our pupils to be responsible citizens and prepares for an adult life living and working in Britain which is diverse and changing.

The Nursery will ensure the promotion of British values and that these efforts are inclusive and promote unity between pupils, parents/carers and the local community.

As part of our statutory duties and through opportunities we will ensure that all staff are fully aware of the threats, risks and vulnerabilities that are linked to extremism and radicalisation. This includes been alert to early indicators, responding to and reporting. This will include all staff including volunteers and will be incorporated into staff induction training.

We will treat any worry or concern that a child or young person in the nursery may be exposed to possible extremism, extremist ideology and or radicalisation as a safeguarding concern.

**Breast ironing**

Breast ironing also known as “breast flattening” is the process whereby young pubescent girls breasts are ironed, massaged and/or pounded down through the use of hard or heated objects in order for the breasts to disappear or delay the development of the breasts entirely. It is believed that by carrying out this act, young girls will be protected from harassment, rape, abduction and early forced marriage and therefore be kept in education. Professionals working with children and young people must be able to identify the signs and symptoms of girls who are at risk of or have undergone breast ironing. Similarly to female genital mutilation (FGM), breast ironing is classified as physical abuse, although there is no specific law within the UK around breast ironing. However, it is a form of physical abuse and if professionals are concerned a child may be at risk of or suffering significant harm they must refer to their Local Safeguarding Children’s Board Procedures.

**Child sexual exploitation**

Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is the [sexual abuse](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-abuse-and-neglect/child-sexual-abuse/) of a child or young person aged under 18 by an adult who involves them in inappropriate sexual activities either with themselves or another person. Children in exploitative situations and relationships receive something such as gifts, money or affection as a result of performing sexual activities or others performing sexual activities on them.

Children or young people may be tricked into believing they're in a loving, consensual relationship. Some children and young people are [trafficked](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-abuse-and-neglect/child-trafficking/) into or within the UK for the purpose of sexual exploitation. Sexual exploitation can also happen to [young people in gangs](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/staying-safe-away-from-home/gangs-young-people/). However, this is a form of sexual abuse and if professionals are concerned a child may be at risk of or suffering significant harm they must refer to their Local Safeguarding Children’s Board Procedures.

**Forced marriage / Under-age marriage**

In England, a young person cannot legally marry until they are 16 years old (without the consent of their parents or carers) nor have sexual relationships. Cygnets Nurserydoes not support the idea of forcing someone to marry without their consent; if we were to be made aware of any families contemplating this we would inform the appropriate agency.

**Genital mutilation/Female circumcision**

This is against the law, yet for some communities it is considered a religious act and cultural requirement. It is illegal for someone to arrange for a child to go abroad with the intention of having her circumcised. If any of the above areas of concern is brought to the attention of Cygnets Nurserywe will report those concerns to the appropriate agency in order to prevent this form of abuse taking place.

**Honour based violence**

Honour based violence’ is a crime or incident, which has or may have been committed to protect or defend the honour of the family and/or community’. It is important to be alert to signs of distress and indications such as self-harm, absence from setting, infections resulting from female genital mutilation, isolation from peers, being monitored by family, not participating in setting activities, unreasonable restrictions at home. Where it is suspected that a child/young person is at risk form Honour based violence Cygnets Nurserywill report those concerns to the appropriate agency in order to prevent this form of abuse taking place.

**Trafficked children**

Child trafficking involves moving children across or within national or international borders for the purposes of exploitation. Exploitation includes children being used for sex work, domestic work, restaurant/ sweatshop, drug dealing, shoplifting and benefit fraud. Where Cygnets Nursery suspects a child of being trafficked/exploited we will report our concerns to the appropriate agency.

**Disguised compliance**

Disguised compliance involves a parent or carer giving the appearance of co-operating with child welfare agencies to avoid raising suspicions, to allay professional concerns and ultimately to diffuse professional intervention.

**INFORMATION SHARING**

At Cygnets Nursery we sometimes need to share information with other professionals. We recognise that parents have a right to know that information they share will be regarded as confidential as well as be informed about the circumstances, and reasons, when we are obliged to share information. We are obliged to share confidential information without authorisation from the person who provided it or to whom it relates if it is in the public interest.

That is when:

* + it is to prevent a crime from being committed or intervene where one may have been, or to prevent harm to a child or adult; or
  + not sharing it could be worse than the outcome of having shared it.

The three critical criteria are:

* + - Where there is evidence that the child is suffering, or is at risk of suffering, significant harm.
    - Where there is reasonable cause to believe that a child may be suffering, or at risk of suffering, significant harm.
    - To prevent significant harm arising to children and young people or serious harm to adults, including the prevention, detection and prosecution of serious crime.

We always follow Surrey Multi-Agency Information Sharing Protocol (MAISP). The principles

set out in the protocol are based on good practice and the legal and professional

requirements relating in particular to Surrey’s public bodies.

They are summarised under the 10 Golden Rules.

*Golden Rules*

1. Confirm the identity of the person you are sharing with
2. Obtain consent to share if safe, appropriate and feasible
3. Confirm the reason the information is required
4. Be fully satisfied that it is necessary to share
5. Check with a manager/specialist or seek legal advice if you are unsure
6. Don’t share more information than is necessary
7. Inform the recipient if any of the information is potentially unreliable
8. Ensure that the information is shared safely and securely
9. Be clear with the recipient how the information will be used
10. Record what information is shared