



Mangotsfield Out of School Club Extremism and Radicalisation Policy

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Extremism and Radicalisation Policy - MOOSC20.03

Purpose

MOOSC is committed to keeping children safe and plays an important safe-guarding role in recognising extremism and radicalisation.

This policy sets out the signs to be aware of, the roles our staff play and how we raise concerns in line with current legislation and with guidance issued by the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB).

Recognising Vulnerability to Radicalisation

Unfortunately, there are no definitive indicators that a child may be vulnerable to radicalisation however there are a number of signs that together increase the risk.

Children who may be more at risk of radicalisation may be victims of bullying or low self-esteem which may lead to them becoming targets to extremists. Signs of vulnerability to radicalisation include but are not limited to:

- Underachievement;
- Being in possession of extremist literature;
- Poverty;
- Social exclusion;
- Traumatic events;
- Global or national events;
- Religious conversion;
- Change in behaviour;
- Extremist influences;
- Conflict with family;
- Confused identity;
- Victim or witness to race or hate crimes;
- Rejection by peers, family, social groups or faith.

Recognising Extremism

A part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities to identify signs of abuse we will be alert to early indicators of extremism which may include:

- Showing sympathy for extremist causes;
- Making remarks or comments about being at extremist events or rallies outside of the Club;
- Inability or unwillingness to discuss their own views while advocating messages similar to illegal organisations or other extremist groups;
- Out of character changes in dress, behaviour and peer relationships;
- Isolating themselves from family and friends and behaving in a secretive manner;
- Intolerance of differences such as faith, culture, gender, race or sexuality;
- Graffiti, art-work or writing that seems to promote extremist views;
- Attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others;
- Verbalising anti-Western or anti-British views;
- Increased levels of anger and advocating violence towards others; and
- Parents/ carers reporting a change in the child's behaviour.



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These signs don't always mean a child has been radicalised; it may simply be part of a child's normal behaviour and development. Awareness is key with communication between parents/ carers, the Club and our Schools being of utmost importance.

Reporting Concerns

All concerns relating to radicalisation should be referred to the Designated Child Protection Officer, which for the Club is the Play Manager.

The Designated Child Protection Officer will discuss all concerns relating to radicalisation with the Head Teacher of that particular School and the LSCB so that appropriate action (if necessary) can be taken. Where a child is at risk of immediate serious harm, a referral will be made to the relevant Child Protection Agencies immediately.

Designated Child Protection Officer Responsibilities

The Designated Person holds ultimate responsibility for child protection issues and liaises with external agencies (e.g. Child Protection Agencies, LSCB and OFSTED) as and when necessary.

The Designated Person for the Club is the Play Manager who will ensure that:

- Extremism and Radicalisation Policy and Procedures are reviewed regularly;
- All occurrences are properly reported and recorded where appropriate. This includes informing OFSTED, Child Protection Agencies or LSCB where appropriate;
- All reported occurrences are reviewed so that preventative measures can be taken;
- Staff receive regular updates and information as well as training where necessary;
- Staff are aware of, and follow, Club-specific Extremism and Radicalisation Procedures;
- Staff receive advice and support on how to protect children from the risk of radicalisation; and
- Communication between the Club and our School Head Teachers is transparent and open with regard to suspected radicalisation or extremism.

The full responsibilities of the Club's designated Child Protection Officer can be found in our Safeguarding Policy.

Staff Responsibilities

Each member of staff are responsible for and are required to:

- Undertake relevant training as and when required in order to have the knowledge and confidence to be able to:
 - understand the general risks of radicalisation;
 - identify those who might be at risk of radicalisation and spot signs of extremism;
 - challenge extremist views; and
 - provide appropriate advice to children who are at risk of radicalisation.
- Be alert to changes in behaviour which could indicate a need for help or protection; and



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- Use their professional judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and escalate to the Play Manager quickly.

Any member of staff who disregards their responsibilities may be subject to disciplinary procedures as set out in our Employee Handbook.

Related Policies

1. Safeguarding
2. Safe Internet Use