



Prevent Policy

Date	July 2022
Review Date	July 2025
Chair of Governors	Mr K Lewis
Headteacher	Ms L Morris

Preventing Radicalisation and Extremism

Ysgol Nantgwyn is committed to providing a secure environment for pupils, where learners feel safe and are kept safe. All adults at Ysgol Nantgwyn recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility irrespective of the role they undertake or whether their role has direct contact with or responsibility for learners or not.

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

In adhering to this policy, and the procedures set out, staff and visitors will contribute to Ysgol Nantgwyn's delivery of the outcomes to all learners, as set out in s10 (2) of the Children's Act 2004.

This Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Safeguarding Policy is one element within our overall arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of all learners in line with our statutory duties set out in the Education Act 2002.

Our school's Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Safeguarding Policy also draws upon the guidance contained in the DfE publication "Keeping Learners safe in Education, 2014", and specifically DCSF Resources "Learning Together to be Safe", "Prevent: Resources Guide", "Tackling Extremism in the UK", DfE's "Teaching Approaches that help build resilience to Extremism among Young People", Peter Clarke's Report (July 2014), "Keeping Children Safe in Education" (March 2015), the "Counter-Terrorism and Security Act" (2015) and the "Prevent Duty" (June 2015).

We recognise that the governing body has a responsibility to pay 'due regard to the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism' (Counter Terrorism and Security Act, 2015) and ensure the school has a 'clear approach to implementing the Prevent duty and keeping children and learners safe from the dangers of radicalisation and extremism'.

Links to other policies

The Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy links to the following Ysgol Nantgwyn policies;

- Child Protection and Safeguarding policy
- Whistleblowing Policy
- Equal Opportunity Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- E-Safety Policy

Objectives

The Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy is intended to provide a framework for dealing with issues relating to vulnerability, radicalisation and exposure to extreme views.

There are different forms of extremist organisations in the UK and the world,– ISIL (Islamic State), Al-Qaeda, Boko Haram, British Defence League, Animal Rights extremist groups such as SPEAK, Irish Republican Army (IRA), Anti-Abortion groups, to name a few.

We recognise that we are well placed to be able to identify safeguarding issues linked to the dangers of extremist views and this policy clearly sets out how the school will deal with such incidents and identifies how the curriculum and ethos underpins our actions.

The objectives are that:

- All governors, teachers and the support team will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism is and why we need to be vigilant in school ;
- All governors, teachers, and the support team will know what the school policy is on tackling extremism and radicalisation and will follow the policy guidance and act swiftly and accordingly when issues arise.
- All members of staff are able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation and respond by following whole school safeguarding procedures with immediate effect;
- All parents/carers and students will know that the school has policies in place to keep students safe from harm and that the school regularly reviews its systems to ensure they are appropriate and effective.

Definitions

When operating this policy Ysgol Nantgwyn uses the following accepted Governmental definition of radicalisation and extremism which is:

Radicalisation – *‘the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism’ (Prevent Strategy document)*

Extremism – *‘vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect tolerance of different faith and beliefs; and/or calls for the death of members in our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas’ (Prevent Strategy document)*

Ethos and Practice

There is no place for extremist views of any kind in our school, whether from internal, sources – pupils, staff or governors, or external sources – school community, external agencies or individuals

Our pupils see our school as a safe place where they can explore controversial issues safely and where our teachers encourage and facilitate this. We have a duty to ensure this happens.

As a school we recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes for pupils and so should be addressed as a safeguarding concern as set out in this policy.

Extremists of all persuasions aim to develop destructive relationships between different communities and those with differing views by promoting division, fear, and mistrust of others based on ignorance or prejudice and thereby limiting the life chances of young people. Education is a powerful weapon against this; equipping young people with the knowledge, skills and critical thinking to challenge and debate in an informed way.

Therefore at Ysgol Nantgwyn we will provide a broad and balanced curriculum so that our pupils are enriched, understand and become tolerant of difference and diversity and also to ensure that they thrive, feel valued and are not marginalised.

Furthermore at Ysgol Nantgwyn we are aware that young people can be exposed to extremist influences or prejudiced views from an early age which emanate from a variety of sources and media; including the internet. Pupils may themselves reflect or display views that may be discriminatory, prejudiced or extremist, including using derogatory language.

As part of our whole school e-safety programme we highlight the potential risks students may face in relation to on-line radicalisation and encourage pupils to report any concerns they may have for themselves or other students either to their form tutor, schools or one of the Child Protection Officers.

There is no single way of identifying a pupil who is likely to be susceptible to terrorist ideology. As part of wider safeguarding responsibilities staff will be alert to:

- Disclosures by pupils of their exposure to the extremist actions, views or materials of others outside of College such as in their homes or community groups, especially where pupils have not actively sought these out;
- Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images;
- Pupils accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites;
- Distribution of extremist literature and documentation ;
- Parental reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance;

- Partner schools, local authority services and police reports of issues affecting students in other schools or settings;
- Pupils voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives;
- Changes in behaviour which could indicate that pupils are in need of help or protection;
- Use of extremist or 'hate' terms to exclude others or incite violence;
- Intolerance of difference, whether secular or religious or, in line within our equalities policy, views based on, but not exclusive to, gender, disability, homophobia, race, colour or culture;
- Attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others ;
- Anti-Western or Anti-British views;
- Use of extremist language;

Ethos and Approach

We will all strive to eradicate the myths and assumptions that can lead to some pupils becoming alienated and disempowered, especially where the narrow approaches learners may experience elsewhere may make it harder for them to challenge or question these radical influences.

This guidance and support will be delivered through the whole school curriculum, Assembly programme and PSE coverage. We will ensure that all of our support and approaches will help our pupils build resilience to extremism and give them a positive sense of identity through the development of critical thinking skills. We will develop strategies and staff training to ensure that all our staff are equipped to recognise extremism and are skilled and confident enough to challenge it.

We recognise the importance of guiding pupils to be intolerant of all forms of extremism – violent animal rights extremism, political extremism.

Our goal is to build mutual respect and understanding and to promote the use of dialogue not violence as a form of conflict resolution. We will achieve this by using an approach that includes:

- PSE Programmes
- Open discussion and debate
- Work on anti-violence and a restorative approach to conflict resolution
- Targeted programmes led by external providers
- Cross-curricular thematic programmes
- Annual audits of curriculum and PSE provision to ensure the values of democracy and individual liberty are promoted throughout the wider curriculum

We will also work with local partners, families and communities in our effort to ensure our school understands and embraces our local context and values in challenging extremist views and to assist in the broadening of our pupils' experiences and horizons. We will help support pupils who may be vulnerable to such influences as part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities. Additionally in such instances our school will seek external support from the Local Authority and/or local partnership structures working to prevent extremism.

Curriculum

At Ysgol Nantgwyn we will promote the values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs. We will teach and encourage pupils to respect and to respect one another and to respect and tolerate difference, especially those of a different faith or no faith. It is indeed our most fundamental responsibility to keep our students safe and prepare them for life in modern multi-cultural Wales and world.

Pupils at Ysgol Nantgwyn have come from all over the world and we aim to instil the Welsh/British values outlined by our Government in all students; so that they all understand what the people of our society see as being important and what behaviour we feel is right and wrong. Through our curriculum we actively promote a culture of mutual respect and tolerance, democracy, the rule of law, equal opportunities and freedom. Welsh/British values permeate throughout the school curriculum and support the development of the whole child.

Democracy

The principle of democracy is consistently being reinforced at Ysgol Nantgwyn, with democracy processes being used for important decisions within the school community, for instance, elections being held for the Pupil leadership team, Form Captains and Student Ambassadors.

The rule of law

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced at Ysgol Nantgwyn.

Pupils are taught the rules and expectations of the school which are highlighted by the home school agreement and pupil expectations. Pupils are taught the values and the reasons behind laws that govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police and other Services reinforce this message.

Individual liberty

At Ysgol Nantgwyn, pupils are actively encouraged to make independent choices, with the knowledge that they are in a safe, secure and supportive environment. Our staff educate and provide boundaries for pupils to make informed choices, through a safe environment and an empowering education.

Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised on how to exercise these safely, for example through e-safety and Daily Act of Collective Worship work.

Ysgol Nantgwyn has a robust anti-bullying policy and has in place a comprehensive Behaviour for Learning Policy.

Mutual Respect

Respect is a strong part of the culture at Ysgol Nantgwyn. Pupils learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect and this is reiterated through teaching and learning environments.

Mutual respect is embraced throughout the curriculum by providing the opportunity for pupils to express their views in a safe environment. Ysgol Nantgwyn is a restorative school.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

This is achieved through equipping pupils with the ability to understand their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving the opportunities to experience such diversity within the school community. Pupils benefit from a number of international visitors, including pupils from other countries and cultures. Additionally, pupils are actively encouraged to share their faith and beliefs within the school and celebrate festivities throughout the calendar year.

We can offer a prayer room at school to allow students from different religions to pray and quietly reflect during the day.

The use of ICT

We strongly recognize the risk posed to our pupils of on-line radicalization, as terrorist organizations like ISIL seek to radicalize young people through the use of social media and the internet.

The Child Protection Lead Officer (Luisa Martin-Thomas) is notified of any inappropriate behaviour detected by pupils while they are “online” and appropriate steps are taken as required. This may involve speaking to the pupils, contacting parents, setting up a mentoring programme or making a direct referral to the MASH team based on the seriousness of the incident.

E-safety is a key aspect of the school curriculum and equips pupils to stay safe online, both in school and outside. E-safety is delivered predominantly in the ICT curriculum with specific focus on the range of social media sites that could pose a threat to students.

E-safety is also delivered in other subjects, the PSE curriculum and in our whole school assembly programme.

Use of External Agencies and Speakers

At Ysgol Nantgwyn we encourage the use of external agencies and speakers to enrich the experiences of our learners.

We will positively vet those external agencies, individuals or speakers who engage to provide such learning opportunities or experiences for our pupils. Such vetting is to ensure that we do not unwittingly use agencies that contradict each other with their messages or that we are inconsistent with, or are in complete opposition to, the school's values and ethos. We must be aware that in some instances the work of external agencies may not directly be connected with the rest of the school curriculum so we need to ensure that this work is of benefit to students.

Safeguarding

Please refer to our Safeguarding Policy for the full procedural framework on our Safeguarding duties. Staff are reminded to suspend any 'professional disbelief' that instances of radicalisation 'could not happen here' and to be 'professionally inquisitive' where concerns arise, referring any concerns through the appropriate channels.

Training

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (Luisa Martin-Thomas) will attend PREVENT training courses as necessary and the appropriate inter-agency safeguarding training organised by the Local Authority at least every two years. Again this will include training on extremism and radicalisation and its safeguarding implications. All staff will receive updated training in relation to Radicalisation and Extremism. Key staff will take part in a certificated online course; focusing on the Prevent strategy.

Workload Impact Assessment

Policy name:	Accessibility Plan
Date of assessment:	
Assessed by:	

The policy complies with and is consistent with the teachers' contractual entitlements.
The policy and any related procedures were introduced following full consultation with the each union.
The policy and any related procedures include a specific statement regarding workload impact.
The policy has been piloted/trailed/evaluated to enable an assessment of workload impact to be made.
The impact of the policy and related procedures is that they have not added additional hours of working
The policy does not duplicate any other existing policy.
All policy has been reviewed in order to access whether any outdated and unnecessary.
The College has identified the resources necessary to support the policy, including staff time, any additional staffing and appropriate equipment.
Implementation of this policy will not result in any additional meetings/activities that have not been identified within the College calendar, published and revised in consultation with the Unions.
All staff (including the headteacher) have had training to ensure that the policy and any related procedures are carried out without increasing workload burdens.
The policy and related procedures are reviewed regularly to ensure that additional workload burdens have not been added over time.