

## 50-50 SYNC CIC – Preventing Radicalisation Policy

### Introduction

50-50 SYNC CIC is committed to providing a secure environment for pupils, where children feel safe and are kept safe. All adults in our company recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility irrespective of the role they undertake or whether their role has direct contact or responsibility for children or not.

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

This Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Safeguarding Policy is one element within our overall company arrangements to Safeguard and Promote the Welfare of all Children in line with our statutory duties set out at s175 of the Education Act 2002 (s157 of the Education Act 2002.)

Our company's Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Safeguarding Policy also draws upon the guidance contained in the "London Child Protection Procedures" and DfE Guidance "Keeping Children 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"

### Company Ethos and Practice

When operating this policy, we use the following accepted Governmental definition of extremism which is:

**'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; and/or calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas'**

There is no place for extremist views of any kind in our company, whether from internal sources - pupils, staff or governors, or external sources - company community, external agencies or individuals. Our pupils see our company as a safe place where they can explore controversial issues safely and where our staff encourage and facilitate this - we have a duty to ensure this happens.

As a company we recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes for children and so should be addressed as a safeguarding concern as set out in this policy. We also recognise that if we fail to challenge extremist views, we are failing to protect our pupils. Extremists of all persuasions aim to develop destructive relationships between different communities 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.

Any prejudice, discrimination or extremist views, including derogatory language, displayed by pupils or staff will always be challenged and where appropriate dealt with in line with our Behaviour and Discipline Policy for pupils and the Code of Conduct for staff.

As part of wider safeguarding responsibilities company staff will be alert to:

- Disclosures by pupils of their exposure to the extremist actions, views or materials of others outside of company, 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
- Parental reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance
- Local schools, local authority services, and police reports of issues affecting pupils in other schools or settings
- Pupils voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives
- Use of extremist or 'hate' terms to exclude others or incite violence
- Intolerance of difference, whether secular or religious or, in line with 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

Our company will closely follow any locally agreed procedure as set out by the Local Authority and/or our Safeguarding Children Board's agreed processes and criteria for safeguarding individuals vulnerable to extremism and radicalisation. Teaching Approaches

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

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- Equipping our pupils with the appropriate skills, knowledge, understanding and awareness for resilience

This approach will be embedded within the ethos of our company so that pupils know and understand what safe and acceptable behaviour is in the context of extremism and radicalisation.

We will also work with local partners, families and communities in our efforts to ensure our company understands and embraces our local context and values in challenging extremist views and to assist in the broadening of our pupil's experiences and horizons. We will help support pupils who may be vulnerable to such influences as part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities and where we believe a pupil is being directly affected by extremist materials or influences we will ensure that that pupil is offered mentoring. Additionally, in such instances our company will seek external support from the Local Authority and/or local partnership structures working to prevent extremism.

- At our company 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 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 pupils safe and prepare them for life in modern multi-cultural Britain and globally.

We will undertake Risk Assessments for external speakers to ensure that we do not unwittingly use agencies that contradict each other with their messages or that are inconsistent with, or are in complete opposition to, the company'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 company curriculum so we need to ensure that this work is of benefit to all pupils.

50-50 SYNC CIC will therefore assess the suitability and effectiveness of input from external agencies or individuals to ensure that:

- Any messages communicated to pupils are consistent with the ethos of the company and do not marginalise any communities, groups or individuals

### **Whistle Blowing**

Where there are concerns of extremism or radicalisation Pupils and Staff will be encouraged to make use of our internal systems to Whistle Blow or raise any issue in confidence. Please refer to Company Whistle Blowing Policy.

### **Child Protection and Safeguarding**

Please refer to our Safeguarding Policy for the full procedural framework on our Child Protection duties.

Staff at our company will be alert to the fact that whilst Extremism and Radicalisation is broadly a safeguarding issue there may be some instances where a child or children may be at direct risk of harm or neglect. For example; this could be due to a child displaying risky behaviours in terms of the activities they are involved in or the groups they are associated with or staff may be aware of information about a child's family that may equally place a child at risk of harm. (These examples are for illustration and are not definitive or exhaustive) Therefore all adults working at our company (including visiting staff, volunteers' contractors, and students on placement) are required to report instances where they believe a child may be at risk of harm or neglect to the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Principal.

### **Role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead**

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is Rod Douglas

The Designated Safeguarding Lead works in line with the responsibilities as set out at Annex B of the DfE Guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'. The Designated Safeguarding Lead is the focus person and local 'expert' for company staff, and others, who may have concerns about an individual child's safety or well-being and is the first point of contact for external agencies.

### **Role of Board of Directors**

This policy will be considered and adopted by the board of directors in line with their overall duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children as set out in the DfE guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'

Parents/carers will be issued with a hard copy of this policy on request. This policy will also be made available to parents/carers via the company website.

The directors will actively evaluate the effectiveness of this policy by monitoring the staff group's understanding and application of the procedures within this policy as their overall duty to safeguard children.

**Policy Reviewed on:** 01/01/2020

**Policy Reviewed by:** Rod Douglas