

## **PREVENTING EXTREMISM AND RADICALISATION SAFEGUARDING POLICY**

### **Introduction**

SEK is committed to providing a secure environment for all customers and learners, where they feel safe and are kept safe. SEK recognises that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility irrespective of the role they undertake or whether their role has direct contact or responsibility for customers and learners or not. When operating this policy, SEK uses 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'.

In adhering to this policy and procedures staff, visitors, partners and suppliers will contribute to SEK delivery of the outcomes to all customers and Learners, as set out in s10 (2) of the Children Act.

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

**SEK's Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Safeguarding Policy** also draws on:

- Guidance in the "London Child Protection Procedures 2015" DfE Guidance "Keeping Children Safe in Education, July, 2015"
  - 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 of July 2014 "Report into allegations concerning Birmingham schools arising from the Trojan Horse letter" and
  - Training and refresher training delivered to all staff during Induction and annually through Marshall Training
- The full Government Prevent Strategy can be viewed at:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/97976/prevent-strategy-review.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/97976/prevent-strategy-review.pdf)

There is no place for extremist views of any kind within SEK, whether from internal sources (customers, learners or staff) or external sources (external agencies or individuals). Our customers and learners see our programme environments 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 an organisation we recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes for all 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 customers and learners.

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 and vulnerable people.

Education is a powerful weapon against this; equipping people with the knowledge, skills and critical thinking, to challenge and debate in an informed way.

At SEK we therefore aim to provide a broad and balanced curriculum, delivered by skilled professionals, so that our customers and learners are enriched, understand and become tolerant of difference and diversity and also to ensure that they thrive, feel valued and not marginalised.

Furthermore, at SEK we are also aware that young and vulnerable people can be exposed to extremist influences or prejudiced views from an early age which emanate from a variety of sources and media, including via the internet, and at times customers and learners may themselves reflect or display views that may be discriminatory, prejudiced or extremist, including using derogatory language.

Any prejudice, discrimination or extremist views, including derogatory language, displayed by customers, learners or staff will always be challenged. Where misconduct by a member of staff either through SEK or one of its partners is proven the matter will be referred to the Police for their consideration as to whether to a Prohibition Order is warranted.

### **Responsibilities**

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

- Disclosures by customers and learners of their exposure to the extremist actions, views or materials of others outside of the training or programme environment, such as in their homes or community groups, especially where customers and learners have not actively sought these out.
- Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images.
- Customers and learners accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites.
- Parental and or family reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance
- Partner organisations, local authority services, and police reports of issues affecting customers and learners in other settings
- Customers and learners 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

### **Teaching Approaches**

We will all strive to eradicate the myths and assumptions that can lead to some young and vulnerable people becoming alienated and disempowered, especially where the narrow approaches some customers and learners may experience elsewhere may make it harder for them to challenge or question these radical influences. In our programmes this will be achieved by good teaching, promotion of citizenship, reinforcement of safeguarding and equality and diversity policies and through effective PSD and Ethics training.

In every programme there is a specific focus on preventing radicalisation and extremism through the following integrated and embedded areas for free discussion:

- What is an extremist?
- What causes extremism? Free speech and right to religion
- Crime and Punishment
- Extremism lesson in Community Cohesion
- Peace and Conflict
- Religious Experience
- Fundamentalism

In addition to the above, SEK also adopts the methods outlined in the Government's guidance 'Teaching approaches that help build resilience to extremism among young ( and vulnerable) people' DfE 2011.

We will ensure that all of our teaching approaches help our customers and learners build resilience to extremism and give them a positive sense of identity through the development of critical thinking skills. We will ensure that all of our staff and partners are equipped to recognize extremism and are skilled and confident enough to challenge it.

We will be flexible enough to adapt our teaching approaches, as appropriate, so as to address specific issues so as to become even more relevant to the current issues of extremism and radicalisation. In doing so we will follow 3 key principles:

- Making a connection with young and vulnerable people through good [teaching] design and a learning centred approach.
- Facilitating a 'safe space' for dialogue, and
- Equipping our customers and learners with the appropriate skills, knowledge and understanding and awareness of resilience.

Therefore this approach will be embedded within the ethos of our organisation so that Learners, customers, staff and partners know and understand what safe and acceptable behaviour is in the context of extremism and radicalisation. This will work in conjunction with SEK's approach to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of learners and customers as defined in Ofsted's Inspection Handbook and will include the further promotion of this rounded development of our participants on all programmes.

SEK's 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 a curriculum that includes:

- Open discussion and debate
- Focussed training programmes

### **Collaboration with stakeholders**

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

At SEK 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 all participants 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 learners and customers safe and prepare them for life in modern multi-cultural Britain and globally.

### **Whistle Blowing**

Where there are concerns of extremism or radicalisation customers, learners, partners and staff will be encouraged to make use of our internal systems to Whistle Blow or raise any issue in confidence. Staff should use the Whistleblowing Policy.

### **Training**

Whole organisation training will be organised for staff on an annual basis and will comply with the prevailing arrangements agreed by the Local Authority and the Local Safeguarding Children Board.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead will attend training courses as necessary and the appropriate inter-agency training, again this will include training on extremism and radicalisation and its safeguarding implications.

### **Signposting safeguarding concerns related to radicalisation and extremism**

1. In the first instance, any concerns should be referred to the Safeguarding Lead.
2. The Safeguarding Lead will meet with the learner to discuss the concerns and make a professional judgement that is factually recorded about the appropriate course of action;
3. If the Safeguarding Lead is satisfied that the learner has not been radicalised and is not involved in extremist activities then any underlying issues (e.g. social isolation) will be dealt with in accordance with the safeguarding policy and where necessary external agencies will be informed by the Safeguarding Lead.
4. After reporting to the Safeguarding Lead, if they believe that the learner is involved in radicalisation or extremist activities then they will refer the matter to the police or the local borough PREVENT safeguarding team.
5. The local PREVENT Community Safety Unit, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1YW. Telephone: 01227 862 122, email [csu@canterbury.gov.uk](mailto:csu@canterbury.gov.uk)

### **What is Channel Referring Mechanism?**

You can refer all individuals that you feel are vulnerable to radicalisation. A referral can be made by an individual or an organisation, provided the referring mechanism is followed. You can contact Channel directly through [channel@kent.pnn.police.uk](mailto:channel@kent.pnn.police.uk) to make your referral.

### **Who do I contact when I am suspicious?**

Trust your instincts, all information is important. If you wish to report suspicious activities contact Kent Police on **101** or **999** in an emergency.

### **Policy Adoption, Monitoring and Review**

This policy was considered and adopted by SEK in line with their overall duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of all participants as set out in the DfE guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'

All parents, guardians and carers can be issued with a hard copy of this policy on request. SEK will actively evaluate the effectiveness of this policy by monitoring staff understanding and application of the procedures within this policy as their overall duty to safeguard all learners and customers.

**Safeguarding Representative – Kelly Snipp - 01227 469 973**

**Board Representative – Rebecca Smith - 01227 469 972**

**Last reviewed: January 2016**

**Next review date: January 2017**