



# Ulverston Victoria High School

## British Values

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## Introduction

UVHS is committed to providing a secure environment for students and all staff recognise that safeguarding and creating a safeguarding culture is the responsibility of everyone who works here.

### 1. The National Prevent Strategy

UVHS supports the Home Office '4P' Prevent strategy to combat radicalisation and terrorism. The 4P's are:

**Protect** - to strengthen protection against a terrorist attack in the UK or against its interests overseas and so reduce their vulnerability. This work focuses on border security, the transport system, national infrastructure and public places.

**Prepare** - to mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack where that attack cannot be stopped. This includes work to bring a terrorist attack to an end and to increase the UK's resilience to facilitate recovery from its aftermath.

**Pursue** - to stop terrorist attacks by detecting, prosecuting and otherwise disrupting those who plot to carry out attacks against the UK or its interests overseas.

**Prevent** - to stop people from becoming or supporting terrorism. This includes countering terrorist ideology and challenging those who promote it; supporting individuals who are especially vulnerable to becoming radicalised; and working with sectors and institutions where the risk of radicalisation is assessed to be high.

Whilst the first three strands are clearly the remit of the government and security services, the fourth one is one to which schools and those who work with young people in a wider setting such as Youth workers or Social Services can contribute. UVHS acknowledges this, supports the strategy and strives to take an active part of the Prevent section of the strategy both at a whole school and an individual level.

Prevent is a strategy that works to prevent the growth of issues that create a climate which facilitates radicalisation to occur, by creating a climate of mutual trust in which young people grow and develop. This climate works against creating circumstances in which young people feel isolated and become vulnerable to exploitation by those who wish to further a radical agenda. The creation of a school that is a secure and safe place based on appreciation and respect for all has always been enshrined in Victoria Values and continues to be so in the school's clear statement of Equality and related policies and procedures.

Extremism in all its forms has no place at UVHS, as exposure to both extremist materials and influences is detrimental to the development of young people. Extremists of all kinds aim to develop destructive relationships between different communities by promoting division, fear and mistrust of others based on ignorance or prejudice. Education is a powerful weapon against this as it equips young people with the knowledge, skills and sound judgement to challenge and debate these issues in a secure environment.

At UVHS the Prevent strategy is furthered by -

- 1 (a) **Raising Awareness of the issue of radicalisation with staff.** So that those who work with young people at UVHS appreciate that they are a front-line strategy, and act accordingly. This is done through staff training, which is delivered online and which will be reviewed annually. UVHS staff appreciate how positive relationships created within school can remedy the factors that create the environment for dangers of radicalisation. All staff will undergo the Channel General Awareness Model under the auspices of the College of Policing. Pastoral staff will specifically monitor students

under their care and curriculum leaders will ensure that opportunities for combatting radicalisation should be taken when they arise directly in lessons, and indirectly all the time in making sure no student is marginalised or excluded from activities or learning.

- 1 (b) **To ensure the understanding and awareness of current staff (and new staff).** The 'Prevent' Policy will be tested in the safeguarding section of our interview process.

We have also created a responsibility post for a member of staff to promote British Values within the school.

2. **Raising student awareness.** This will be done through the curriculum, where a clear understanding of history/religion/tradition promotes an appropriate understanding of the origins of movements such as Nazism and promoting an understanding of Islam and other world religions based on peaceful messages and intent. The pastoral curriculum is designed to encourage students to want to be part of an inclusive society, and the importance of Citizenship is stressed as students are encouraged through learning to strengthen their sense of belonging. Subjects will when applicable, foster an understanding of what terrorism is and how it occurs.
3. **Creating an inclusive school.** UVHS appreciates the importance of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) Education and delivers it through a shared curriculum for all, encouraging full participation in a broad and balanced curriculum, including the Pastoral curriculum, which celebrates the diversity of the school community and aims to make students feel valued and included.
4. **Celebrating success for all.** The Merits and Headteacher's WOW reward system celebrate and reward achievement and effort and are open to all students and monitored for inclusivity as is the UVHS Honour's Reference.
5. **Responding to concerns.** All concerns raised by staff or other students are investigated as 'Safeguarding' issues according to the school safeguarding protocol and policy. Feedback is given to reporting staff/students and issues regarding further investigation are reported to the relevant authority/external agency.
6. **Robust Safeguarding protocols and procedures.** These are audited annually through the Safeguarding policy (UVHS) and protocol which aims to create a culture where all staff and students feel empowered and enabled to raise concerns no matter how small in an atmosphere of support and openness. UVHS is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its students. As a school we recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation is no different from safeguarding against any other vulnerability. At UVHS, all staff are expected to uphold and promote the fundamental principles of British values, as defined in the 2011 Prevent strategy.
7. **Internet monitoring.** UVHS screens all internet traffic coming through the school server. Websites with radicalised content are screened through this system.
8. **Promoting Resistance.** UVHS's curriculum and extra-curriculum builds in resilience/independence/broader activities and participation is encouraged and facilitated by school bursary/discounted fees /options to pay by instalment where appropriate so that it is open to all as far as possible.

## **2. Tackling extremism at UVHS**

At UVHS, 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 via the internet, and at times 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 learners or staff will always be challenged and dealt with in line with the relevant policies on student behaviour or staff conduct.

As part of wider safeguarding responsibilities staff will be alert to and report using the UVHS Safeguarding procedures and behavioural policy –

- Disclosures by students of their exposure to the extremist actions, views or materials of others outside of school, such as in their homes or community groups.
- Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images.
- Students accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites.
- Parental reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance.
- Other local schools, local authority services, and police reports of issues affecting their students.
- 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, sexuality, race, colour or culture.
- Attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others.
- Anti-Western or Anti-British views.

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

We will strive to ensure that our support and approaches will help our students build resilience to extremism and give them a positive sense of identity through the development of critical thinking skills.

We will provide staff training to ensure that all of our staff are equipped to recognise extremism and are skilled and confident enough to challenge it.

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 help support learners who may be vulnerable to such influences as part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities and where we believe a student is being directly affected by extremist materials or influences we will refer the student through the Channel reporting process for help and support or other relevant action.

## **3. Use of External Agencies and Speakers**

External agencies or speakers can enrich the experiences of our students, however we will endeavour to ensure that we do not unwittingly use agencies that are inconsistent with, or are in opposition to UVHS's values and ethos.

#### **4. The Role of the Curriculum**

Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. Students are encouraged to share their views and recognise that they are entitled to have their own different beliefs which should not be used to influence others.

Our PSHCE (Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship Education) and SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) provision is embedded across the curriculum and through the wider school life, and it underpins the inclusive ethos of the school.

It is recognised that students with low aspirations are more vulnerable to radicalisation and therefore we strive to equip our students with confidence, self-belief, resilience, respect and tolerance as well as setting high standards and expectation for themselves.

Students are regularly taught how to stay safe when using the Internet and are encouraged to recognise that people are not always who they say they are online. They are taught to seek adult help if they are upset or concerned about anything they read or see on the Internet.

#### **5. Policy Review**

This policy statement will be reviewed regularly to reflect Government initiatives and developments in this field.

#### **6. Definitions for Clarification**

**Radicalisation** is defined as the act or process of making a person more radical or favouring of extreme or fundamental changes in political, economic or social conditions, institutions or habits of the mind.

**Extremism** is defined as the holding of extreme political or religious views which may deny rights to any group or individual. It can be expressed in vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and respectful tolerance of different faiths or beliefs.

#### **7. UVHS statement on promoting British values**

UVHS actively encourages students and staff to respect British values as defined in the Ofsted Inspection Handbook:

*“acceptance and engagement with the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs; the pupils develop and demonstrate skills and attributes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain”.*

UVHS understands that extremism of all kinds undermines British values and a proactive approach throughout the curriculum and extra-curricular is necessary to ensure that students are made aware of the danger posed by extremism.

UVHS welcomes students of all faiths and none, equally.

UVHS supports and participates in the Prevent strategy to combat radicalisation and terrorism. As part of the '4P' Plan, (Protect, Prepare, Pursue and Prevent) Prevent seeks to tackle the issues that create a climate in which radicalisation can occur.

As with all matters pertaining to the maintenance of a safeguarding culture within school, staff are enjoined to be fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalisation and any issues or concerns should be reported immediately. These incidents will be followed up in the usual way according to the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and UVHS will refer any issues to the relevant external agencies or Police Liaison Officer as necessary.

All governors and staff will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school through training.

All governors and staff will know what the school policy is on anti-radicalisation and extremism and will follow the policy when issues arise.

All parents 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 and the statement will be available on the school website.

**Other Policies linked to promoting British values as defined in the 2011 Prevent Strategy are those relating to:**

Anti Bullying

Child Protection and Safeguarding

Single Equality Scheme