



The Little Nut Tree

Holiday Club



Safeguarding Policy on Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation

Introduction

The Little Nut Tree holiday club is committed to providing a secure environment for children, where children feel safe and are kept safe. All adults at The Little Nut Tree holiday club 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. It is the individual responsibility of every member of staff to read, understand and implement this policy, together with their responsibilities as outlined in the club Whistle Blowing Policy, the Code of Conduct and the club Keeping Children Safe in Education and Child Protection policies and guidelines. New members of staff will be given copies of these policies during their induction process. The Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Safeguarding Policy is one element within our overall club arrangements for Safeguarding and Keeping Children Safe in Education. It is also in line with the statutory duties set out in the Education Act 2002. Our club's Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy draws upon the guidance contained in the DfE Guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2015'; and specifically 'Tackling Extremism in the UK', and the DfE's 'Teaching Approaches that Help Build Resilience to Extremism Among Young People'.

Club Ethos and Practice

When operating this policy the Little Nut Tree will 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 which 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 at the Little Nut Tree whether from internal sources –children, staff or external sources - club community, external agencies or individuals. Our children see The Little Nut Tree holiday club as a safe place where they can explore issues safely and where our staff encourage and facilitate this – we have a duty to ensure this happens. As a childcare service, 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 children. 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. Therefore, we provide a broad and balanced curriculum, delivered by skilled professionals, so that our children are enriched, understand and become tolerant of difference and diversity and also to ensure that they thrive, feel valued and not marginalized. Furthermore, 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 children could 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 children or staff will always be challenged and dealt with in line with our Behaviour Policy for children and the Code of Conduct for staff. As part of wider safeguarding responsibilities, staff will be alert to:

- Disclosures by children of their exposure to the extremist actions, views or materials of others outside of club, such as in their homes or community groups, especially where children have not actively sought these out.

- Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images · Children accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites
- Parental reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance
- Other clubs, local authority services, and police reports of issues affecting children in other clubs or settings · Children 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, our club will closely follow any locally agreed procedure as set out by the Local Authority for safeguarding individuals vulnerable to extremism and radicalisation.

Approaches

We will strive to eradicate myths and assumptions that can lead to some young people becoming alienated and disempowered. In our club this will be achieved by good instruction but also by adopting the methods outlined in the Government's guidance 'Teaching Approaches That Help Build Resilience To Extremism Among Young People' DfE 2011. We will ensure that our supportive approaches help our children build resilience to extremism and give children a positive sense of identity. We will ensure that we:

- Facilitate a safe space for dialogue, and
- Equip our children with the appropriate skills, knowledge, understanding and awareness to build resilience.

This approach is embedded within the ethos of our club so that children know and understand what safe and acceptable behaviour is. This will work in conjunction with our club's approach to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of children as defined in Ofsted's school Inspection Handbook. 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 work with local partners, families and communities in our efforts to ensure our club understands and embraces our local context and values in challenging extremist views and to assist in the broadening of our children's experiences and horizons. We will help support children 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, we will seek, as necessary, external support from the Local Authority. At The Little Nut Tree holiday club 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 children to respect one another and to respect and tolerate difference, including those of a different faith or no faith. It is a fundamental responsibility of our club to keep our children safe and prepare them for life in modern multi-cultural Britain and globally.

Staff Training

All staff with complete prevent training and be aware of concerning signs and behaviours.

Use of External Agencies and Speakers

We encourage the use of external agencies or speakers to enrich the experiences of our children. However, we will vet those external agencies, individuals or speakers who we engage to provide such learning opportunities or experiences for our children. Such vetting is to ensure that we do not unwittingly use agencies that contradict each other with their messages or that are inconsistent with, or are in opposition to, the club's values and ethos.

Our club will assess the suitability and effectiveness of input from external agencies or individuals to ensure that:

- Any messages communicated to children are consistent with the ethos of the club and do not marginalise any communities, groups or individuals
- Any messages do not seek to glorify criminal activity or violent extremism or seek to radicalise children through extreme or narrow views of faith, religion or culture or other ideologies
- Activities are properly embedded in the club’s ethos and curriculum and clearly avoids contradictory messages or duplication.
- Activities are matched to the needs of children · Activities are carefully evaluated by the club to ensure that they are effective.

We recognise, however, that the ethos of our club is to encourage children to understand opposing views and ideologies, appropriate to their age, understanding and abilities, and to be able to actively engage with them in informed debate, and we may use external agencies or speakers to facilitate and support this. Therefore, by delivering broad and balanced activities, augmented by the use of external sources where appropriate, we will strive to ensure our children recognise risk and build resilience to manage any such risk themselves where appropriate to their age and ability but also to help children develop the critical thinking skills needed to engage in informed debate.

Whistle Blowing

Where there are concerns of extremism or radicalization, children and staff will be encouraged to make use of our internal systems to whistle blow or raise any issue in confidence. (Please refer to Club Whistle Blowing Policy).

Child Protection

Please refer to our Safeguarding Policy for the full procedural framework on our Child Protection duties. Staff 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 The Little Nut Tree holiday club (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.

Recruitment

We apply safer recruitment best practice principles and sound employment practice in general and in doing so will deny opportunities for inappropriate recruitment or advancement. We will be alert to the possibility that persons may seek to gain positions within our club so as to unduly influence our club’s character and ethos. We are aware that such persons seek to limit the opportunities for our children thereby rendering them vulnerable to extremist views and radicalisation as a consequence. Therefore, by adhering to safer recruitment best practice techniques, and by ensuring that there is an on-going culture of vigilance within our club and staff team, we will minimise the opportunities for extremist views to prevail.

This policy was adopted by: The Little Nut Tree Holiday Club	Date: 24/06/21
To be reviewed: 24/06/22	Signed: Adrianna Pazera