

The Skylark Federation

Prevent Risk Assessment February 2024

Under the Prevent Duty, schools are expected to assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorism, including support for extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology. This means being able to demonstrate both a general understanding of the risks affecting children and young people in the area and a specific understanding of how to identify individual children who may be at risk of radicalisation and what to do to support them.

In the Skylark Federation, we already mitigate the risks by raising awareness of staff through Prevent training and using internet filters on school ICT systems. This risk assessment is a way of evidencing how our schools are reducing the risks of children are well as staff being exposed to messages and influences of violent extremism and radicalization.

This risk assessment will:

- Identify the threats in relation to the summary of local risk
- Decide who might be harmed and how
- Evaluate the risks and decide on precautions
- Record any significant findings

Sussex Police produce an annual profile of risks relating to counter terrorism in East Sussex. This profile also records levels of referrals in relation to young people and details of the type of ideology to which they appear to be vulnerable and susceptible. This information has been incorporated into this risk assessment.

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| The Skylark Federation | Safeguarding Leads; Heads of School; Executive Headteacher; SENDCO/Inclusion Manager | Date of Risk Assessment-February 2024 | Review Date-January 2025 |
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| Hazard | Who is at risk? | Actions in place | Risk owner | Risk level | Additional notes/next steps |
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| <u>Leadership</u> | | | | | |
| The values and ethos of the Skylark Federation are unsuitable for promoting resilience against extremist ideologies and promoting British values. | Pupils, staff, and governors | The Skylark Federation's values clearly set out our commitment to British values. Our values are displayed on each school's website (home page). | Senior Leadership Team | Low | |
| Leaders are unaware of their responsibilities under the Prevent duty, and of the context of the federation relating to the risk of extremism. | Pupils and staff | School leaders are aware of their duty to prevent pupils from being drawn into terrorism. They ensure all staff are aware. School leaders stay up to date with local developments and risks. | Senior Leadership Team | Low | |
| <u>Training and capability</u> | | | | | |
| School staff are unaware of their responsibilities under the Prevent duty, and the need to promote British values. | Pupils and staff | All staff have read their school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, and Part 1 and Annex B of KCSiE. All staff have completed Prevent | Senior Leadership Team | Low | All staff to have completed Prevent training as soon as possible after being recruited. Prevent is an integral part of safeguarding induction. |

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| | | training. Staff are aware that they can go to their DSL for advice, support and to escalate concerns. | | | |
| Governors cannot carry out their role to monitor the federation's Prevent strategy effectively. | Pupils and staff | All governors have read our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and the required sections of KCSiE. | Senior Leadership Team | Low | |
| Staff do not support the schools' values and ethos, or they support and promote extremist ideas. | Pupils and staff | The staff recruitment process reflects the federation's values and promotes good safeguarding practice. Schools' values and commitment to safeguarding are included in job advertisements. Safer recruitment procedures are followed. | Senior Leadership Team | Low | |
| <u>Working in Partnership</u> | | | | | |
| Pupils are exposed to extremist | Pupils | Preparation is undertaken with visiting speakers; | Senior Leadership Team. Class Teachers. | Low | |

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| ideologies by visiting speakers. | | materials are discussed and approved prior to any visit. Visitors are never left alone with pupils. | | | |
| The Skylark Federation sites are used to host events which support extremist ideologies or promote hatred. | Pupils and staff | All hiring and lettings agreements state that the school sites will not be hired to groups who support extremist ideologies or promote hatred. | Heads of School. Federation School Business Manager. | Low | |
| <u>School curriculum and culture</u> | | | | | |
| The curriculum teaches damaging material or fails to challenge extremist ideologies and promote British values. | Pupils | Opportunities to promote British values are clearly identified within all areas of the Skylark curriculum. | Heads of School. Class Teachers. Subject Leaders. | Low | |
| A culture of inequality or abuse is allowed to grow, enabling extremist ideology and hate to develop. | Pupils, staff, governors, and parents | The Skylark Federation's Behaviour Policy clearly sets out our behaviour expectations. Staff know how to respond to witnessing harassment and | All staff | Low | Therapeutic behaviour approach was introduced across the Federation in 2022/2023. Regular updates, for pupils and staff, support the sustainability of this. |

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| | | abusive behaviour. Pupils are encouraged to challenge harassment or abusive behaviour among their peers. | | | |
| British values are not promoted outside of the classroom. | Pupils and staff | Pupils participate in democracy through School Council and leadership elections. Assemblies promoting diversity, human rights and respect are held throughout the year. Celebrations from multiple religions and cultures are marked across the federation. | All staff | Low | The profile of School Council members is important; inclusivity matters. |
| <u>IT and internet safety</u> | | | | | |
| Pupils use the school network or school hardware to access extremist material. | Pupils | Our Skylark Federation Online Safety Policy and our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy refer to the risks of online extremist | Senior Leadership Team (including the DSLs) | Low | All new staff are inducted re this robustly. Keeping up to date with online safety initiatives is a priority-but a challenge. The |

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| | | material. Pupils are encouraged to report any material they come across online which makes them worried or uncomfortable. The federation utilizes Smoothwall as its filtering/monitoring system; sites deemed inappropriate or unsafe are blocked. ESCC's IT team monitor staff use. | | | filtering and monitoring standards are being completed. |
| Pupils access extremist material on their own devices or on social media or are specifically targeted for online radicalization. | Pupils | The IT curriculum includes teaching pupils how to stay safe online. Parents are provided with support on how to help their children access the internet safely and spot the signs of online radicalization. | All staff | Low | |
| <u>School security</u> | | | | | |
| Non-approved visitors access the school site to spread extremist ideology. | Pupils and staff | All visitors to any Skylark school must be signed in at reception and wear ID badges. Visitors | Senior Leadership Team. School Office Team. | Low | Ensure visitor safeguarding protocols are up to date. |

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| | | will be always accompanied around the school site by a member of staff (unless their DBS clearance is evidenced as enhanced). | | | |
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