

Fairfield Playbox Pre-School

PREVENT DUTY **AND STATEMENT OF BRITISH VALUES**

Prevent Duty Policy

Fairfield Playbox is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. From 1st July 2015 all schools, registered early years childcare providers and registered later years childcare providers are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, in the exercise of their functions, to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. This duty is known as the **Prevent Duty**. Fairfield Playbox takes safeguarding very seriously, therefore to ensure that we adhere to and achieve the Prevent Duty we will;

- Provide appropriate training for staff, as offered by the Local Authority. Part of this training will enable staff to identify children who may be at risk of radicalisation.
- We will build the children’s resilience to radicalisation by promoting fundamental British values and enabling them to challenge extremist views through their personal, social and emotional development and understanding of the world
- We will assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorism, including support for extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology
- We will ensure that our staff understand the risks so that they can respond in an appropriate and proportionate way
- We will be aware of the online risk of radicalisation through the use of social media and the internet
- As with managing other safeguarding risks, our staff will be alert to changes in children’s behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection (children at risk of radicalisation may display different signs or seek to hide their views). The Key Person approach means we already know our key children well and so we will notice any changes in behaviour, demeanour or personality quickly
- We will not carry out unnecessary intrusion into family life but we will take action when we observe behaviour of concern. The key person approach means that we already have a rapport with our families so we will notice any changes in behaviour, demeanour or personality quickly
- We will work in partnership with the Kingston & Richmond Safeguarding Partnership & SPA Team for guidance and support
- We will build up an effective engagement with parents/carers and families. (This is important as they are in a key position to spot signs of radicalisation)
- We will assist and advise families who raise concerns with us and point them to the right support mechanisms

- We will ensure that any resources used in the preschool nursery are age appropriate for the children in our care and that our staff have the knowledge and confidence to use the resources effectively.

This Policy is intended to serve as guidance for staff to recognise the signs of those who are at risk and also to inform parents of our legal requirement to put this policy into operation. The Prevent Duty policy is part of our wider safeguarding duties in keeping children safe from harm, and this new policy reinforces our existing duties by spreading understanding of the prevention of radicalisation.

Staff Responsibilities

All practitioners must be able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation. There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to a terrorist ideology, but staff should be alert to changes in children's behaviour, including even very young children, which could indicate they may be in need of help or protection.

These behaviours can be evident during small groups, role play activities and child-initiated play. People from any walks of life can be drawn into radicalisation and not necessarily from a particular religion or ethnicity. Terrorism is not promoted by any religion.

The Prevent Duty does not require childcare providers to carry out unnecessary intrusion into family life but we are required to take action when observe behaviour of concern. However, if a child suddenly stops attending Playbox, staff will endeavour to find out the reasons why.

The best way to help children resist extremist views is to teach them to think critically and become independent learners, as described in the Characteristics of Effective Learning, a key part of the EYFS. We endeavour to support our children through the EYFS by providing playful learning opportunities to help them develop positive identities as individuals and members of the community. Through their experience of interacting and sharing with others at Playbox, we work to build children's empathy and emotional literacy, and take action to reduce inequalities, bullying, discrimination, exclusion, aggression and violence. We aim to foster a real sense of belonging for all the children at Playbox.

What to do if you suspect that children are at the risk of radicalisation:

Follow normal Safeguarding Procedures, discussing concerns with the Playbox Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), who may then contact SPA and/or, in an emergency, the police. They will then talk in confidence about the concerns and help to access support and advice.

The Department for Education has dedicated a telephone helpline (020 7340 7264) to enable staff to raise concerns relating to extremism directly. Concerns can also be raised by email to counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk. Please note that the helpline is not intended for use in emergency situations, such as a child being at immediate risk of harm or a security incident, in which case the normal emergency procedures should be followed.

British Values Statement

At Playbox we aim for our children to become valuable and fully rounded members of society who treat others with respect and tolerance, regardless of background. We promote the basic British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs. Many of our nursery policies and procedures support this belief such as child protection, staff training and qualifications, and inclusion policies. All policies are kept in the yellow folder, as well as on the website, and are available to parents and visitors.

The five British values and examples of how they are promoted in Playbox:

Democracy

Children and adults have a right to be heard. At Playbox we encourage the children to take turns in speaking and listening and this is supported through modelling behaviour, songs and stories. Turn taking, sharing and collaboration are further supported by small group work. We allow children to choose their own activities from those available during the morning and also to choose resources from the creative trolley. Children are given opportunities to make decisions about the activities and resources they play with and are given opportunities to develop enquiring minds in an atmosphere where questions are valued. We plan activities based on the interests of individual children and respond positively to their requests for particular resources and activities.

We have Parent Representatives who attend the termly Management Committee Meetings to represent the views of the parents. Their feedback and comments are most important to ensure that Playbox is meeting the needs of the community. Parents are invited to complete an annual questionnaire. This is about making decisions together and listening to children's and parent's voices.

The Rule of Law

Our Behaviour Management Policy outlines the way that we promote considerate, caring behaviour and gently but firmly discourage unkind or hurtful behaviour. We expect staff to be good role models, treating both children and adults with respect and civility.

Individual Liberty

We encourage our children to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment to enable them to do this. We encourage independent thinking. Each child has a key worker to support their unique needs and records are kept of the children's development which are shared with the parents. We ensure children have access to indoor and outdoor learning. Posters are displayed around the nursery showing children from different ethnic and cultural backgrounds and words are displayed in the different languages of the families who form part of the Playbox community. We ensure children develop self-knowledge, self-esteem and increase their confidence in their own abilities. For example –We allow children to take risks on obstacle courses, mixing colours, making their own sandwiches, talking about their experience and learning. (Going through their learning journeys together with them)

Mutual Respect

Our ethos is built around mutual respect. We are an inclusive setting where everyone is valued and has a contribution to make. Different views, faiths, cultures, races are valued and children engage with wider community. Staff and parents/carers work together to provide the best possible outcome for the children. Playbox operates an 'Open Door' policy encouraging parents to chat regularly to their child's Key Worker or the Leaders. The staff provides positive role models and value individuality. This is promoted through birthday celebrations; 'All About Me' and 'Me and My Family' information from parents, as well as more formal discussions with parents such as the 2 Year Check.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Playbox is run by Kingston Methodist Church and welcomes families of all faiths and none, from all backgrounds. We aim to build a welcoming community where all are valued and children can learn and develop feeling safe and included. We enhance children's understanding of different faiths and beliefs by participating in a range of celebrations and multicultural activities throughout the year. Children have the opportunity to dress-up in clothes and try food from other cultures and we encourage parents and carers and other people in the community to participate and support these activities

This policy was last reviewed and revised on 29.1.26

**Signed on behalf of the Management Committee by Alan Clatworthy
(Chair)**

.....