

1. Purpose and Scope

Ambitious about Autism and Ambitious about Autism Schools Trust is committed to providing a secure environment for children and young people where they

Policy Owner	Director of Education	Review Date:	December 2024
Policy No.	003	Version No.	T1 2.0

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 and young people.

All schools and colleges will have a PREVENT risk assessment that is reviewed annually, or when local conditions warrant it.

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. We therefore will provide a broad and balanced curriculum, delivered by skilled professionals, so that our pupil/learners are enriched, understand and become tolerant of difference and diversity and also to ensure that they thrive, feel valued and are not marginalised.

We are also aware that children and 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 pupil/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 pupil/learners or staff will always be challenged and where appropriate dealt with in line with our Behaviour Policy for pupil/learners and the Code of Conduct for staff. Where misconduct by a teacher is proven the matter will be referred to the Teaching Regulation Agency for their consideration as to whether a [Prohibition Order](#) is warranted.

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

- Disclosures by children and young people of their exposure to the extremist actions, views or materials of others outside of school, such as in their homes or community groups, especially where children and young people have not actively sought these out
- Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images
- Children and young people accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites
- Parental reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance
- Partner schools, colleges, local authority services, and police reports of issues affecting children and young people in other schools or settings
- Children and young people voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives

- 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.

We will closely follow any locally agreed procedure as set out by the host Local Authorities and/or our Safeguarding Children/Adult Partnership individuals vulnerable to extremism and radicalisation. In the event of concerns about a person becoming radicalised consideration will be given to using the relevant Local Authority Channel process.¹

¹ Channel is a bespoke panel which meets to address issues of individuals who have been identified as being at risk of radicalisation but have not committed any terrorism offence. The Channel Panel meets when a referral has been made and referrals can be made by anyone.

Policy Owner	Director of Education	Review Date:	December 2024
Policy No.	003	Version No.	T1 2.0

Policy Owner Policy No.	Director of Education 003	Review Date: Version No.	December 2024 T1 2.0
----------------------------	------------------------------	-----------------------------	-------------------------

8.3 Trustees & Governors

All Trustees and Governors receive training about safeguarding, to make sure they have the knowledge and information needed to perform their functions and understand their responsibilities.

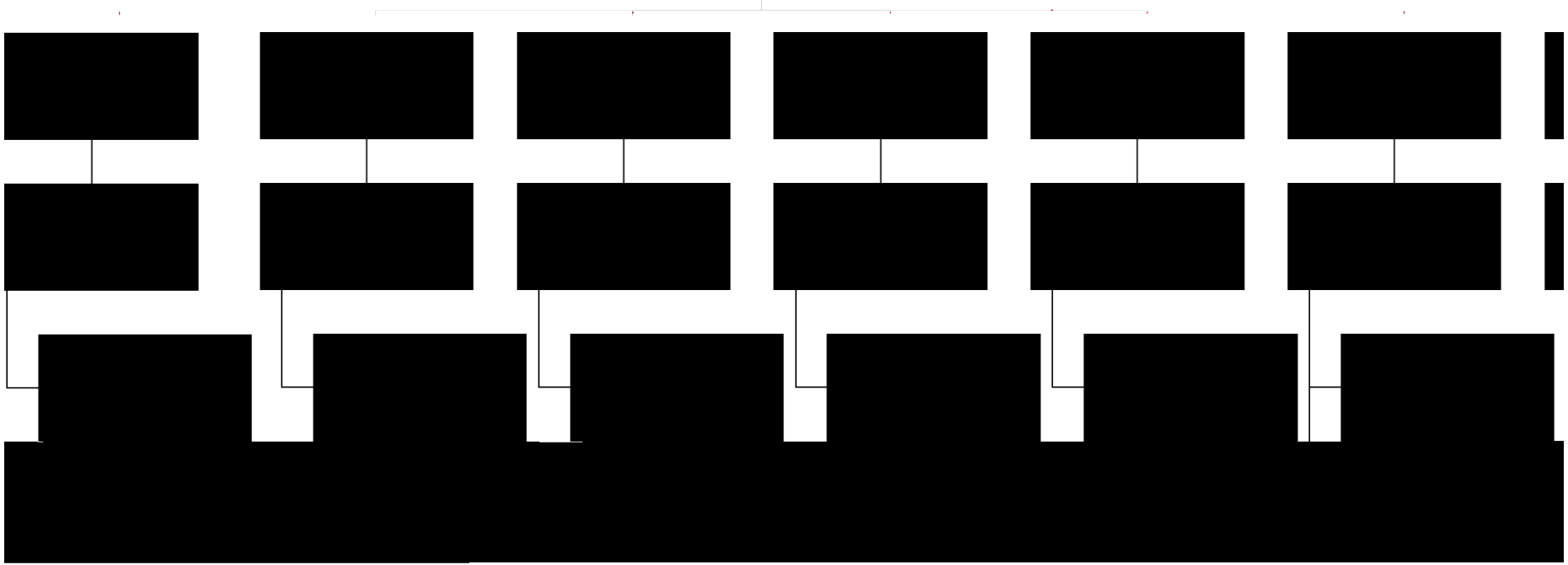
9. Recruitment

The arrangements for recruiting all staff, permanent and volunteer, will follow guidance for safer recruitment best practice in education settings, including, but not limited to, ensuring that Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks are always made at the appropriate level, that references are always received and checked and that we complete and maintain a single central record of such vetting checks.

We will 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 0 G[6tET80pe

Policy Owner	Director of Education	Review Date:	December 2024
Policy No.	003	Version No.	T1 2.0

Appendix 1: Designated Safeguarding Leads



Policy Owner	Director of Education	Review Date:	December 2024
Policy No.	003	Version No.	T1 2.0

Policy Owner	Director of Education	Review Date:	December 2024
Policy No.	003	Version No.	T1 2.0