

SE16 – Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Safeguarding Policy

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Centrepunkt is committed to providing a secure environment for learners, where they feel safe and are kept safe. All staff at Centrepunkt recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility irrespective of the role they undertake or whether their role has direct contact or responsibility for learners or not.
- 1.2 In following this policy and procedure, staff and visitors will contribute to Centrepunkt's delivery of learning activities to all learners. This policy is one element within Centrepunkt's arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of all learners in line with our statutory duties

2. Definition

- 2.1 Centrepunkt uses 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 calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas’.

3. Centrepont Policy Statement

- 3.1 There is no place for extremist views of any kind at Centrepont, whether from internal sources such as learners, staff or managers or external sources from external agencies or individuals.
- 3.2 We recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes for learners and also impact on our reputation and so should be addressed as a safeguarding concern as set out in this policy.
- 3.3 We also recognise that if we fail to challenge extremist views we are failing to protect our learners and staff. 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 staff and learners.
- 3.4 We are aware that young people and adults 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. 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, employers or staff will always be challenged and where appropriate dealt with in line with Centrepont’s **Code of Conduct**.
- 3.5 Where there is misconduct by an assessor or member of staff, Centrepont will suspend the individual(s) from all duties that involve interaction with learners and employers and will carry out a full investigation. If any claims are substantiated then the member of staff will be dismissed and this matter will be handed over to the Police.
- 3.6 As part of wider safeguarding responsibilities, Centrepont staff will be alert to:
- Disclosures by learners of their exposure to extremist actions, views or materials of others, such as in their homes or community groups, especially where learners have not actively sought these out.
 - Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images
 - Learners accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites
 - 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 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
- 3.7 All concerns should be reported immediately to the staff member’s line manager.
- 3.8 Centrepont will closely follow any locally agreed procedure as set out by the Local Authority and/or the Safeguarding Children Board’s agreed processes and criteria for safeguarding individuals vulnerable to extremism and radicalisation. Alternatively, we will seek help and assistance from the Police.

4. Teaching Approaches

- 4.1 We will strive to eradicate myths and assumptions that can lead to 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.
- 4.2 We will ensure that all our staff are equipped to recognise extremism and are skilled and confident enough to challenge it.
- 4.3 Our approach to extremism will be embedded within the working practices of Centrepoint so that learners and staff know and understand what safe and acceptable behaviour is in the context of extremism and radicalisation.
- 4.4 This will work in conjunction with Centrepoint Works' approach to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of learners as defined in Ofsted's Common Inspection Framework 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.
- 4.5 We will help support learners who may be vulnerable to radical influences as part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities. Where we believe a learner or member of staff is being directly affected by extremist materials or influences we will ensure that they are offered support from the Local Authority and/or local partnership structures working to prevent extremism.

5. Whistleblowing

- 5.1 Where there are concerns of extremism or radicalisation, learners and staff will be encouraged to make use of our internal systems to whistle blow or raise any issue in confidence. Please refer to the separate Whistleblowing Policy.

6. Protection

- 6.1 Staff at Centrepoint will be alert to the fact that there may be some instances where learners or staff may be at direct risk of harm or neglect. For example, this could be due to a learner displaying risky behaviours during activities they are involved in or in groups they are associated with. Staff may be aware of information about a learner's situation that may place them at risk of harm (these examples are for illustration and are not definitive or exhaustive).
- 6.2 Therefore, everyone working in Centrepoint (including visiting staff, volunteers, contractors, and students on placement) are required to report instances (or concerns) where they believe a learner or colleague may be at risk of harm or neglect.

7. Participation statement

- 7.1 Centrepoint is committed to involving young people and key stakeholders in how we manage and improve our direct services. When this policy or procedure is reviewed, we will endeavour to consult and involve young people/ stakeholders to consider their views.

8. Commitment to review

- 8.1 This policy, its accompanying procedures and any supporting documents will be reviewed every three years or sooner where any changing legislation has an impact.