



# The Ranch Xtreme

## Prevent Policy

<b>Reviewed by The Directors</b>	<b>1st Sept 2024</b>	<p>This policy will be reviewed annually but can be revised as needed. It will be approved by the Directors board. Our Directors will ensure the Prevent Duty is implemented effectively and will ensure appropriate action is taken in a timely manner to safeguard children and deal with any concerns.</p> <p><b>Staff Roles Named in this Policy:</b>  <b>Designated Safeguarding Lead Level 3 <a href="#">Iain Woodbridge</a></b>  <b>Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead Tara Ballam</b>  <b>Inclusion and Facilitator Lead <a href="#">Toni Matthews</a></b></p>
<b>Adopted by The Ranch Xtreme</b>	<b>Sept 2024</b>	<b>Review cycle:</b> <b>At least annually or sooner with updates</b>
<b>Date for next review</b>	<b>1st Sept 2025</b>	<b>Signed by Directors:</b> <i>Toni Matthews</i> <i>Iain Woodbridge, James Matthew Woodbridge, DIANA GLENCROSS.</i>

# Prevent guidance

Prevent lead: Iain Woodbridge Designated Safeguarding Lead

## Background

This 'Preventing Radicalisation Policy' is part of The Ranch Xtreme's commitment to keeping children safe. All education settings have an important part to play in both educating children and young people about extremism and recognising when pupils start to become radicalised. In March 2015, new statutory duties were placed on education settings by the Counter Terrorism and Security Act (2015) which means they must work to prevent children being drawn into extremism.

Safeguarding children is an important part of our Alternative Education Provision and protecting them from extremism is one aspect of that.

This policy should be read in conjunction with The Ranch Xtreme's Safeguarding (Child Protection) policy.

## Definition

For the purposes of this policy the definition of radical or extreme ideology is:

*"A set of ideas that could justify vilification or violence against individuals, groups or self".*

## Ethos

At The Ranch Xtreme we ensure that through our ethos, values, therapeutic behaviours, and youth support team we promote tolerance and respect for all cultures, faiths and lifestyles. The Board of Directors also ensures that this ethos is reflected and implemented effectively in all of The Ranch Xtreme's policy and practice and that there are effective risk assessments in place to safeguard and promote students' welfare.

We have a duty to prepare our children for life in modern Britain and to keep them safe.

Pupils who attend our setting have the right to learn in safety. We do not tolerate bullying of any kind and will challenge derogatory language and behaviour towards others.

## **Statutory Duties**

The duty to prevent children and young people being radicalised is set out in the following documents.

- Counter Terrorism and Security Act (2015)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (2023 with annex amendments 2024)
- Revised Prevent Duty Guidance (2021)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2022)

## **Non-statutory Guidance**

- Improving the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils: supplementary information (DfE 2014)
- Promoting fundamental British values (DfE 2014)

## **Definitions**

**Extremism** is defined in the 2011 Prevent strategy as 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. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas.

**Radicalisation** refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

**British Values** are democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

**The Ranch Xtreme Provision/Setting/Sites** refers to all places in which The Ranch Xtreme has young people placed for Alternative Education.

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

### **Role of the Board of Directors**

It is the role of the Board of Directors to ensure that The Ranch Xtreme meets its statutory duties with regard to preventing radicalisation.

The Board of Directors includes our Designated Safeguarding Lead, Iain Woodbridge who will liaise with the Leadership Team and other staff about issues to do with protecting children from radicalisation.

### **Role of the Lead Inclusion Facilitator Toni Matthews**

It is the role of the Lead Inclusion Facilitator to:

- ensure that The Ranch Xtreme and its staff respond to preventing radicalisation on a day-to-day basis,
- ensure that The Ranch Xtreme's interventions and ASDAN PSHE sessions addresses the issues involved in radicalisation
- ensure that staff conduct is consistent with preventing radicalisation

### **Role of Designated Safeguarding Lead and Prevent Lead**

At The Ranch Xtreme the Designated Safeguarding Lead is also the Prevent Lead.

It is their role to:

- ensure that staff understand the issues of radicalisation, are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns
- receive safeguarding concerns about children and young people who may be vulnerable to the risk of radicalisation or are showing signs of radicalisation
- make referrals to appropriate agencies with regard to concerns about radicalisation
- liaise with partners, including the local authority and the police
- report to the Board of Director and Senior Leadership Team on these matters
- carry out risk assessments to assess the role of pupils being drawn into terrorism including support for extremist ideas which are part of terrorist ideology. The DSL will also use regular risk assessments to demonstrate understanding of the risks and how to identify pupils who may be at risk of radicalisation.

### **Role of staff**

Preventing radicalisation is the responsibility of all staff. It is an expectation that staff will share their concerns about children, young people and other adults and work with the DSL to ensure appropriate action is taken.

We encourage our pupils to be inquisitive learners who are open to new experiences and are tolerant of others. Our support is tailored to meet the developmental needs of our pupils and topics relating to British Values and differentiated appropriately.

These values support the development of the whole child as a reflective learner within a calm, caring, happy and purposeful atmosphere. Modelling core values alongside the fundamental British Values supports learning, whilst making a positive contribution to the development of a fair, just and civil society.

### **Internet Safety**

The internet provides children and young people with access to a wide-range of content, some of which is harmful. Extremists use the internet, including social media, to share their messages. The Ranch Xtreme monitor any use of the IT devices and systems used during any of the education sessions which prevents inappropriate content, including extremist content being viewed.

We also filter our tablet devices through age restriction and monitoring programmes via the Amazon Kidz settings and the system administrator will alert senior staff where there are concerns and prevent further access when new sites that are unblocked are found.

Where staff, students or visitors find unblocked extremist content they must report it to a senior member of staff.

We are aware that children and young people have access to unfiltered internet when using their mobile phones and staff are alert to the need for vigilance when pupils are using their phones.

The Acceptable Use of Mobile & Digital Devices Policy, refers to preventing radicalisation and related extremist content. Pupils and staff are asked to sign the Agreement annually to confirm they have understood what is acceptable.

Pupils and staff know how to report internet content that is inappropriate or of concern.

Pupils have access to child centred videos and display posters around the setting that allows them to have visual guides on how to report.

### **Staff Training**

All child facing staff will be given mandatory training to help them understand the issues of radicalisation, and extremism. They will be able to recognise the signs of vulnerability and know how to refer their concerns. This information also forms part of induction safeguarding training where staff complete an online training programme.

Staff are required to attend update training at least every 3 years. This is provided by The Ranch Xtreme as part of our commitment to safeguarding children in our setting.

## **Safer Recruitment**

We ensure that the staff we appoint to The Ranch Xtreme are suitable, our recruitment procedures are rigorous, and we follow the statutory guidance published in *Keeping Children Safe in Education (2023 with amendments 2024)*.

Vetting and barring checks are undertaken on relevant people, including Directors and volunteers.

## **Visitors**

Visitors to The Ranch Xtreme are made aware of our safeguarding and child protection policies on arrival at the setting and are given information about what to do if they are concerned about any aspect of child welfare.

Safeguarding information posters and visual displays of how to escalate a concern are provided at each of our sites.

Visitors who are invited to speak to pupils will be informed about our preventing extremism policy and relevant vetting checks are undertaken. We undertake due diligence to ensure that visiting speakers are appropriate. Speakers will be supervised at all times and will not be allowed to speak to children without a member of staff being present.

## **Recognising Extremism**

Early indicators of radicalisation or extremism may include:

- showing sympathy for extremist causes
- glorifying violence, especially to other faiths or cultures
- making remarks or comments about being at extremist events or rallies outside the setting
- evidence of possessing illegal or extremist literature
- advocating messages similar to illegal organisations or other extremist groups
- out of character changes in dress, behaviour and peer relationships (but there are also very powerful narratives, programmes and networks that young people can come across online so involvement with particular groups may not be apparent.)
- secretive behaviour
- online searches or sharing extremist messages or social profiles
- intolerance of difference, including faith, culture, gender, race or sexuality
- graffiti, art work or writing that displays extremist themes
- attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others
- verbalising anti-Western or anti-British views
- advocating violence towards others

## **Referral Process**

Staff and visitors to The Ranch Xtreme must refer all concerns about children and young people who show signs of vulnerability or radicalisation to the Designated Safeguarding Lead using the usual methods for reporting other safeguarding concerns.

Reports can be made via the SharePoint365 hub, via QR code printed on their ID badges or directly to the DSL.

When there are significant concerns about a pupil, the Designated Safeguarding Lead in liaison with the Lead Inclusion Facilitator will make a referral to the appropriate body.

## **Monitoring and Review**

This policy will be monitored by the Board of Directors annually by receiving a report from the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

## **Related Policies**

Child Protection Policy and Procedures

Behaviour Policy

Anti-Bullying Policy

Whistleblowing Policy

Code of Conduct

Online Safety Policy

Mobile & Digital Devices Acceptable Use Policy