

SS John & Monica Catholic Primary School

Prevent Policy and Procedures



Our Mission

'At SS John and Monica's we learn through the example of Jesus to love, respect, understand and value each other'

SS John and Monica Catholic Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all our children.

Introduction

This policy forms part of our school's commitment to keeping children safe. Over the last few years, global events have led to a growth in extremist viewpoints, including advocacy of violent extremism. In March 2015, new statutory duties were placed on schools by the Counter Terrorism and Security Act (2015) which requires them to work to prevent children being drawn into extremism.

Safeguarding children from all risks of harm is a key element of the school's responsibility, and protecting from extremism is one aspect of that. Schools have an important part to play in both educating children and young people about extremism and recognising when pupils are at risk of becoming radicalised.

We have a duty to prepare our children for life in modern Britain and to keep them safe. All staff are expected to uphold and promote the fundamental principles of British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Evidence shows that children with low aspirations are more vulnerable to radicalisation. Therefore the school's ethos and the work it carries out to ensure pupils have confidence and self-belief, and are tolerant and respectful whilst having high expectations of themselves, are crucial in combating radicalisation.

Aims

The main aims of this policy statement are to ensure that all staff are vigilant for the signs of radicalisation and to ensure that we work alongside other professional bodies and agencies to safeguard our children from harm.

Objectives

- All staff will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- All staff will know what the school policy is on anti-radicalisation and extremism and will follow the policy when issues arise.
- The school will ensure this policy is available to the wider school community through its website and in hard copy from the school office on request.

Definitions

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

Extremism: We have adopted the 2011 Prevent Strategy definition 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.

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

Signs of Vulnerability

There are no known definitive indicators that a young person is vulnerable to radicalisation, but there are a number of signs that together increase the risk.

These include:

- Continual refusal to conform
- Underachievement
- Being in possession of extremist literature
- Poverty
- Social exclusion
- Traumatic events
- Global or national events
- Religious conversion
- Change in behaviour
- Extremist influences
- Conflict with family over lifestyle
- Confused identity
- Victim or witness to race or hate crimes
- Rejection by peers, family, social groups or faith

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 school (but there are also very powerful narratives, programmes and networks that young people can come across online so particular individuals / groups may not become apparent)
- 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
- 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

Procedure for Referrals

It is important for us to be vigilant and fully informed about issues that affect the local and wider community. Staff are reminded to suspend any professional disbelief that incidents of radicalisation 'could not happen here' and to report any concerns to Mrs Elliott (SPOC) or DDSL's if Mrs Elliott is not available and record any concerns on Cpoms. The DSL or DDSL's will discuss any concerns raised and if necessary contact Children's Advice and Support Service (CASS) for advice and support. Other steps as judged necessary may include submitting a formal request for support to CASS alongside a completed Prevent

screening tool. The school will not contact the Police directly as this responsibility lies with CASS if deemed necessary

Role of the Curriculum

We are committed to ensuring that our pupils are offered a broad and balanced curriculum which aims to prepare them for life in modern Britain and teach the values of living in Britain. At SS John and Monica's, we strive to equip our pupils with confidence, self-belief, respect and tolerance, as well as setting high standards and expectations for themselves and their educational outcomes. We encourage our pupils to be inquisitive learners who are open to new experiences and respect the views and beliefs of others.

Through our curriculum including RE lessons, pupils are encouraged to share their views and recognise that they are entitled to have their own different beliefs which should not be used to influence others. Our RE/PSHE/citizenship provision is embedded across the curriculum, and underpins the ethos of the school.

Through the computing curriculum, pupils are taught how to stay safe when using the internet and encouraged to recognise that people are not always who they say they are online. The children are taught to seek adult help if they are upset or concerned about anything they read or see on the internet. 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 filtering systems used in school, block inappropriate content, including extremist material, but

pupils are regularly reminded to report inappropriate content, including extremist material, that may get through the School's filter so the matter can be addressed. Parents are given information on how to help and support their children at home with online safety.

Our DSL and DDSL's work closely with teachers, children and families to identify opportunities for Early Help. Children know who to speak to if they feel worried or unsafe and are provided both the physical and emotional space to sit, reflect and share.

Staff Training

Through regular staff updates and training, alongside continuing professional development opportunities, we will ensure our staff is fully aware of the threats, risks and vulnerabilities that are linked to radicalisation and is aware of the process of radicalisation and the early indicators.

Safer Recruitment

We ensure our recruitment processes are rigorous, in line with statutory requirements, best practice guidance and the school's safer recruitment policy.

Visitors

All visitors are accommodated in line with the school's visitors' policy which covers all contractors and regular visitors.

See Prevent Screening Toolkit to complete

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