

St Teresa's Catholic Primary School

Prevent Policy



'Christ be in our heads, in our hearts and in our hands'

Policy statement

Our school recognises that it has duties of care towards its pupils and that safeguarding against extreme radicalisation that may leave them vulnerable to violent extremism is one of those duties. Whilst it remains very rare for primary school age children to become involved in extremist activity, young people can be exposed to extremist influences or prejudiced views, including via the internet, from an early age. Early intervention is a preferable way of tackling extremism.

This policy aims to:

- Ensure there is no room for extremism in our school including expression of extremist views, vocal or active, which are opposed to our fundamental Catholic values.
- Protect all pupils from harm and to ensure that they are taught in a way that is consistent with the law and the Catholic values of tolerance, democracy and liberty.
- Address awareness of our Prevent duty.

What is Prevent?

The Government's National Prevent strategy aim is to stop people from becoming radicalised, terrorists, or supporters of terrorism.

This is supported by three specific objectives:

1. Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it.
2. Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support (individuals).
3. Work with a wide range of sectors and institutions (including education, faith, health and criminal) where there are risks of radicalisation.

Procedures

Our school will:

- Raise awareness of The Prevent Duty amongst staff and governors
- Provide information about what can cause violent extremism, about preventative actions and where to get additional information and advice.
- Closely monitor internet access and use to promote safeguarding and Catholic values, and avoid extremism.

- Promote Catholic values of tolerance, understanding, compassion, and respect
- Monitor children's views, values and tolerance.
- Apply its safer recruitment procedures outlined in the recruitment policy.
- Provide staff training, including newly appointed staff when undergoing induction on the practice of this policy within our school.
- Regularly monitor staff conduct and where necessary i.e. in extreme cases where a member of staff is a cause for concern, the school will contact the relevant authorities (central Prevent Team, local Police enforcement).

Visiting Speakers

Our school recognises the value that visiting speakers can bring to enhance pupils' learning and understanding of the wider world. However, all visiting speakers will be carefully vetted to ensure that their messages and materials are consistent with the school's Catholic values and safeguarding principles. Staff will supervise visits to ensure that pupils are not exposed to extremist, prejudiced, or inappropriate content. Any concerns arising from a visiting speaker will be reported immediately to the designated safeguarding lead and appropriate authorities, in line with the school's Prevent and safeguarding procedures.

Reducing Permissive Environments

The school is committed to creating an environment where extremist ideas and behaviours cannot thrive. This includes monitoring areas where pupils may gather unsupervised, closely supervising online activity, and challenging language, attitudes, or behaviours that are intolerant or discriminatory. Staff will actively promote positive values, such as respect, empathy, and critical thinking, while intervening promptly where there is evidence of coercion, exclusion, or harmful peer influence. By maintaining clear expectations and consistent oversight, the school reduces opportunities for radicalisation and supports pupils in making safe, informed choices.

What to do if you have a concern

- If a member of staff has a concern about a pupil they should follow the school's normal safeguarding procedures, including discussing with the school's designated safeguarding lead, and where deemed necessary, with Children's Social Care. In Prevent priority areas, the local authority will have a Prevent lead who can also provide support.
- You can also contact the Police on 101 a non- emergency number. They can talk to you in confidence about your concerns and help you gain access to support and advice.
- The Department for Education has a dedicated telephone helpline (020 7340 7264) to enable staff and governors 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.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the School's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.