



St Mary and St Pancras CE Primary School

Prevent Policy Statement

November 2021

St Mary and St Pancras CE Primary School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. As a school, we recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation is no different from safeguarding against any other vulnerability. 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, as well as uphold the ethos and practices of the school.

AIMS AND PRINCIPLES

The main aims of this policy statement are to ensure that staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalisation; that they overcome professional disbelief that such issues will not happen here and ensure that we work alongside other professional bodies and agencies to ensure that our pupils are safe from harm. The principle objectives are that:

- All Staff and Governors will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- All Staff and Governors will know what the school policy is on anti-radicalisation and extremism and will follow the policy when issues arise.
- All parents and pupils will know that the school has policies in place to keep pupils safe from harm and that the school regularly reviews its systems to ensure they are appropriate and effective.

DEFINITIONS AND INDICATORS

Radicalisation is defined as the act or process of making a person more radical or favouring of extreme or fundamental changes in political, economic or social conditions, institutions or habits of the mind. Extremism is defined as the holding of extreme political or religious views.

PROCEDURES FOR REFERRALS

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at St Mary and St Pancras CE Primary School to date, it is important for us to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues that affect the communities that we serve. Staff are reminded to suspend any professional disbelief that instances of radicalisation 'could not happen here' and to refer any concerns through the appropriate channels (currently via the Designated Safeguarding Lead (HT) and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DHT)).

We believe that it is possible to intervene to protect people who are vulnerable. Early intervention is vital and staff must be aware of the established processes for front-line professionals to refer concerns about individuals and/or groups. We must have the confidence to challenge, the confidence to intervene and ensure that we have strong safeguarding practices based on the most up-to-date guidance and best practice.

The Designated Safeguarding Leads will deal swiftly with any referrals made by staff or with concerns reported by staff.

The Headteacher will discuss the most appropriate course of action on a case-by-case basis and will decide when a referral to external agencies is needed.

THE ROLE OF THE CURRICULUM

Our curriculum is underpinned by our distinct Christian Values: Friendship, Forgiveness, Endurance, Respect and Thankfulness. We are committed to ensuring that our pupils are offered a broad and balanced curriculum that aims to prepare them for life in modern Britain. Children are encouraged to share their views and recognise that they are entitled to have their own personal beliefs, which should not be used to influence others. Our PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) curriculum incorporates Citizenship, SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) and British Values. Our LDBS Religious Education curriculum is further enhanced by daily acts of worship and our Philosophy for Children curriculum teaches our children to listen to and critically evaluate the views of others, whilst developing their own set of beliefs as they grow. E-safety is high on the agenda: e-safety alerts are taught to children every two weeks as well as shared with parents in the newsletter.

Staff at St Mary and St Pancras CE School work within a culture of vigilance. The SLT meets weekly to discuss the Vulnerable Pupil Register and CP/CIN caseload though daily updates are discussed on a need-to-know basis.

Keeping Ourselves Safe week every Autumn term includes each child choosing two named adults in whom they can confide any worries that they may have inside and outside of school. We are a 'listening school' and the safety of our children comes above all else.

Role of Governing Body

The Governing Body of our School will undertake appropriate training to ensure that they are clear about their role and the parameters of their responsibilities as Governors, including their statutory safeguarding duties. The Governing Body of our school will support the ethos and values of our school and will support the school in tackling extremism and radicalisation. The nominated Safeguarding Governor will meet with the school formally on a termly basis and in line with the provisions set out in the most current version of the DfE guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education', will challenge the school's senior management team on the delivery of this policy and monitor its effectiveness. Governors will review this policy regularly (every two years) and may amend and adopt it outside of this period in accordance with any new legislation or guidance or in response to any quality assurance recommendations pertaining to the delivery of this policy and the overall safeguarding arrangements made.

Recruitment

The arrangements for recruiting all staff, permanent and volunteers, to our school will follow Safer Recruitment guidance for safer- recruitment best practice in education settings. This includes, but is not

limited to ensuring that 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 our school so as to unduly influence our school's character and ethos. We are aware that such persons seek to limit the opportunities for our pupils thereby rendering them vulnerable to extremist views and radicalisation as a consequence. Therefore, by adhering to safer recruitment best practice techniques and by ensuring that there is an ongoing culture of vigilance within our school and staff team we will minimise the opportunities for extremist views to prevail.

STAFF TRAINING

All staff and the Safeguarding Governor undertake annual Safeguarding training in September. All Staff and Governors undertake annual Prevent training and registers are held on these. Through regular safeguarding updates in staff-briefings, we ensure that our staff are fully aware of the threats, risks and vulnerabilities that are linked to radicalisation; are aware of the process of radicalisation and how this might be identified early on.

Links to other policies:

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Positive Learning Behaviour Policy
- Schools' On-line Safety Policy

Our school's Policy also draws upon the guidance contained in the "London Child Protection Procedures" and the current version of DfE Guidance "Keeping Children Safe in Education"; and specifically DCSF Resources "Learning Together to be Safe", "Prevent: Resources Guide", "Tackling Extremism in the UK", DfE's "Teaching Approaches that help Build Resilience to Extremism among Young People".

Procedures for referrals:

Any colleague with concerns will follow school procedures in reporting a safeguarding concern. The concern will be logged and a timeline started.

Useful Numbers/Websites:

Prevent Duty Guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>

Channel Guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/channel-guidance>