

St Mary's Catholic Primary School
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Anti-Radicalisation Policy

2016-17

POLICY DETAILS:

Legal Status: Non-statutory

Adopted: September 2016

Version Date: September 2016

Last Review:

Next Review: September 2017

Responsible Person: Executive Headmistress

INTRODUCTION

Parents and guardians are reminded that in choosing St Mary's Catholic Primary School for their children, they will read and adhere to our policies, procedures and vision.

At St Mary's Catholic Primary School pupils make rapid progress because of the outstanding behaviour that creates a climate where lessons are entirely focussed on learning. We achieve this by inspiring, motivating and challenging our pupils.

'Our expectations for them are limitless.'

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.

The School and Governing Board has a 'zero tolerance approach' to extremist behaviour for all community members. We rely on our strong values to steer our work and ensure the pastoral care of our pupils protects them from exposure to negative influences.

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:

- Pupils are encouraged to adopt and live out our Core Values. These complement the key "British Values" of tolerance, respect, understanding, compassion and harmonious living.
- Pupils are helped to understand the importance of democracy and freedom of speech, through the SEAL (Social, emotional aspects of learning) assemblies and through the elected School Council members
- Pupils are taught how to keep themselves safe, in school and when using the internet.
- Pupils participate in local community events so that they appreciate and value their neighbours and friends who may not share their faith background.
- Pupil's wellbeing, confidence and resilience is promoted through our planned curriculum and out of hours learning opportunities.
- Pupils are supported in making good choices from a very young age, so they understand the impact and consequences of their actions on others.
- Governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff demonstrate an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school. The Office for Security & Counter Terrorism works to counter the threat from terrorism and their work is detailed in the counter terrorism strategy

CONTEXT.

This strategy is based on four areas of work:

- **Pursue** - To stop terrorist attacks
- **Prevent** - To stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism
- **Protect** - To strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack
- **Prepare** - To mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack

Our role, as a school, is outlined more specifically in the DfE document 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (September 2016). Primarily our work will be concerned with prevention and is outlined more specifically in the DfE document 'Prevent Duty for Schools (June 2015).'

PROCEDURES FOR REFERRALS

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at St Mary's Catholic Primary School to date, it is important for us to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues which affect the region in which we teach. Staff members 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 Child Protection/ Safeguarding lead).

THE ROLE OF THE CURRICULUM

Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. Children are encouraged to express themselves through discussions, debates and consultations. The R.E, (Religious Education) PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education), Citizenship and SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) provision is embedded across the curriculum, and underpins the ethos of the school. Children learn about other faiths, they visit places of worship and are taught about how to stay safe when using the Internet.

STAFF TRAINING

Through INSET opportunities in school, we will 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.

POLICY REVIEW

The Anti-Radicalisation policy statement will be reviewed annually as part of the overall Child Protection and Safeguarding policy and procedures review.