

# Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy

September 2022

## **Mission Statement**

In following the Gospel values of Jesus, we are called to love, to learn and to respect one another.

St. Joseph's Catholic 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. At St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School 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.

## **Links to Other Policies**

Our School's Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation policy statement links to the following policies:

- Safeguarding and Child Protection
- Public Sector Equality Duty information
- Anti-bullying
- Behaviour
- Spiritual, Moral, Vocational, Social Cultural Development (SMVSC)

## **Aims and Principles**

The main aims of this policy 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 governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and the procedures to follow if they feel a child is at risk.
- All governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff will follow this 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.

The general risks affecting children and young people vary from area to area, and according to their age. School staff must also be aware of the increased risk of radicalisation online, as terrorist organisations such as ISIL seek to radicalise young people through the use of social media and the internet. If a member of staff is concerned about a change in a child's behaviour then the school's normal safeguarding procedures should be followed. The first point of contact would be to speak with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Mr Carry (School Principal).

### **Procedure for Referrals**

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at St. Joseph's 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 are reminded to suspend any professional disbelief that instances of radicalisation 'could not happen here'. Any concerns must be reported to the DSL or deputies. Concerns will then be reported to the Black Country Prevent Coordinator.

### **The Role of the Curriculum**

We aim to provide an education that provides pupils with opportunities to explore and develop their own values and beliefs, spiritual awareness, high standards of personal behaviour, a positive, caring attitude towards other people, an understanding of their social and cultural traditions and an appreciation of the diversity and richness of their cultures. Developing every human's mind, body and soul is fundamental to the purpose of Catholic education.

Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. Children 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 PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education), Citizenship and SMVSC (Spiritual, Moral, Vocational, Social and Cultural) provision is embedded across the curriculum, and underpins the ethos of the school.

It is recognised that children with low aspirations are more vulnerable to radicalisation and therefore we strive to equip our pupils with confidence, self-belief, respect and tolerance as well as setting high standards and expectations for themselves.

Children are regularly taught about how to stay safe when using the Internet and are encouraged to recognise that people are not always who they say they are online. They are taught to seek adult help if they are upset or concerned about anything they read or see on the Internet.

### **Staff Training**

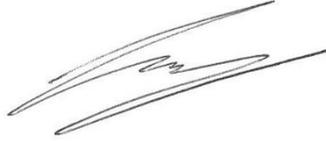
Through INSET opportunities in school, we will ensure that our staff are fully aware of the threats, risks and vulnerabilities that are linked to radicalisation; are aware of the process of radicalisation and how this might be identified early on. This will be delivered as a training module developed by The Home Office entitled 'Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent' (WRAP).

**Policy Review**

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis by 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023.

Date adopted by Local Governing Body: 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

Signed (Principal):



Signed (Chair of St. Joseph's Local Governing Body):

