

Prevent Duty



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1.Great Crosby Catholic Primary Commitment

School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. Every member of staff recognises that safeguarding against radicalisation and extremism is no different to safeguarding against any other vulnerability in today's society.

This Policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies and statements:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding
- Equality Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- E-safety Policy
- British Values

The following national guidelines should also be read when working with this policy:

- PREVENT strategy
- Keeping Children Safe in Education
- Working together to Safeguard Children

2.Aims and Principles

The main aims of this policy statement are to provide a framework for dealing with issues relating to vulnerability, radicalisation and exposure to extreme views. Also, it ensures that staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalisation: 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.

We recognise that we are well placed to be able to identify safeguarding issues and this policy clearly sets out how the school will deal with such incidents and identifies how the curriculum and ethos underpins our actions.

The objectives are that:

- All governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school
- All governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff will know where the school policy is on tackling extremism and radicalisation and will follow the policy guidance swiftly when issues arise
- All pupils will understand the dangers of radicalisation and exposure to extremist views: building resilience against these and knowing what to do if they experience them
- All parents/carers 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.

3.Preventing Radicalisation - Introduction

The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty on specified authorities, including local authorities and childcare, education and other children's services providers, in the exercise of their functions, to have due regard to the need to prevent

people from being drawn into terrorism (“the Prevent duty”). Young people can be exposed to extremist influences or prejudiced views, in particular those via the internet and other social media. Schools can help to protect children from extremist and violent views in the same ways that they help to safeguard children from child sexual exploitation, drugs, gang violence or alcohol.

4.The Prevent Strategy

The Prevent strategy aims to protect vulnerable people from being drawn into terrorism. While it remains rare for children and young people to become involved in terrorist activity, young people from an early age can be exposed to terrorist and extremist influences or prejudiced views. We recognise that as with other forms of safeguarding strategies, early intervention is always preferable. Our school is committed to working with other local partners, families and communities, and we will play a key role in ensuring young people and their communities are safe from the threat of terrorism.

5.Indicators

There is no single way of identifying whether a child is likely to be susceptible to any extremist ideology. Background factors combined with specific influences such as family and friends may contribute to a child’s vulnerability. Similarly, radicalisation can occur through many different methods (such as social media or the internet) and settings (such as within the home)

There are behaviours which may indicate a child is at risk of being radicalised or exposed to extreme views. These include:

- Spending increasing time in the company of other suspected extremists
- Changing the style of dress or personal accord with the group
- Day to day behaviour becoming increasingly centred on an extremist ideology, groups or cause
- Loss of interest in other friends and activities not associated with the extremist ideology, group or cause
- Possession of materials or symbols associated with an extremist cause
- Attempts to recruit others to the group/cause
- Communications with others that suggests identification with a group, cause or ideology
- Using insulting or derogatory names for another group
- Increase in prejudice related incidents committed by that person – these may include:
 - Physical or verbal assault
 - Provocative behaviour
 - Damage to property
 - Derogatory name calling
 - Possession of prejudice related materials
 - Prejudice related ridicule or name calling
 - Inappropriate forms of address
 - Refusal to co-operate
 - Attempts to recruit to prejudice related organisations
 - Condoning or supporting violence towards others
 - Talking as if from a script.

6.The Prevent Strategy at Great Crosby Catholic Primary School

We also recognise that our School has a duty of care to our pupils and staff which includes safeguarding them from the risk of being drawn into terrorism. Being drawn into terrorism includes not just violent extremism but also non-violent extremism, which can create an atmosphere conducive to terrorism and can popularise views which terrorists exploit.

Prevent can work within both violent and non-violent extremism arenas and can include topics such as hate crime, racism, bullying, online safety and extreme political views.

7.Our School is committed to:

- Establishing a single point of contact in terms of safeguarding – in school this is Mrs Crann / the Safeguarding Governor is Mr Lowen
- Assessing the risk of students being drawn into terrorism
- Developing an action plan to reduce the risk
- Training staff to recognise radicalisation and extremism
- Referring vulnerable people to Channel
- Prohibiting extremist speakers and events
- Managing access to extremist material - ICT filters
- Being confident about British Values

We recognise that some young people, who are vulnerable to extreme views, may find it difficult to develop a sense of self-worth and to view the world in a positive way. We also recognise that their behaviour may be challenging at times, and that some may cause offence or harm to others.

We will therefore always take a considered and sensitive approach in order that we can support all of our pupils by:

- providing a safe environment for children and young people to learn and develop in our school setting
- identifying children and young people who are particularly vulnerable to extreme views/radicalisation, and taking appropriate action in accordance with the schools Safeguarding procedures with the aim of making sure they are kept safe both at home and in our school setting
- making appropriate referrals to the Local Authority for early intervention and support where necessary
- ensuring that staff member(s) or governor(s) responsible for safeguarding are kept fully aware of their responsibilities, by attending relevant training and briefings
- letting staff, parents/carers and pupils know how to voice their concerns
- responding to any allegations appropriately in accordance with appropriate school policies and procedures

8.Procedures for Referrals

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 view that instances of radicalisation ‘could not happen here’ and to refer any concerns through the Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs).

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 staff to refer concerns about individuals/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.

Our DSLs understand when it is appropriate to make a referral to the Channel programme.

Prevent referrals may be passed to a multi-agency Channel Panel, which will discuss the individual referred to determine whether they are vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism and consider the appropriate support required. A representative from the school or college may be asked to attend the Channel Panel to help with the assessment

9.The Role of the Curriculum

Our curriculum is “broad and balanced” 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. We are committed to providing a curriculum that prepares children for life in modern Britain. Our RE curriculum, RSHE, and SMSC provision is embedded across the curriculum and underpins the ethos of the school. Children are taught about how to keep safe when using the internet and taught to recognise things and people who may not be safe online. They are taught to seek help if that are upset or concerned about anything.