

St Barnabas' CE Primary School & Nursery



Preventing Radicalisation and Extremism Policy

“Serve with Hope and Encouragement to Learn and Love”

Date approved by the Governing Body: May 2024
To be reviewed by May 2026 (unless there are any changes to the statutory requirements prior to this date)

1.1. PURPOSE

Legal background The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a legal responsibility on schools to prevent people being drawn into terrorism and requires that they challenge extremist ideas. This duty came into force on 1st July 2015.

DEFINITIONS

Radicalisation: the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism which lead to terrorism.

Extremism: active or vocal opposition to fundamental British values including but not confined to:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

2. OBJECTIVE

School Aims

In line with our school vision, we have high expectations for our pupils' work, behaviour and in the variety of opportunity we offer through our enriched curriculum. We are an inclusive school where

all members of our school family are valued as individuals and for the contribution they make to our high academic standards and pastoral care. We encourage children to treat everyone respectfully.

The Prevent Duty and this policy should be read alongside these school policies:

- Safeguarding and Child Protection
- Equalities Policy
- Online Safety
- Behaviour and Attitudes
- Collective Worship
- Religious Education

It is important to be aware that extremism can occur in many different organisations and groups who can damage society and present a threat to the community. Schools should at all times ensure that their approach to the threat of radicalisation is balanced, calm and proportionate. In Church of England schools, the Christian values that we teach sit very comfortably alongside the British values that in many cases have grown directly from the Christian heritage of this country.

- Christian values: www.christianvalues4schools.co.uk/

- British values:

www.schools.london.anglican.org/uploads/document/2_0_british-valuesin-c-of-e-schools-dec-2014.docx

CONCERNS ABOUT PUPILS

It is important to remember that the vast majority of children, of whatever background, will not get involved in extremist action and in many cases suspicious behaviour may be a result of other problems e.g. mental health issues, relationship, drug or alcohol problems. It is important not to jump to conclusions (not least because accusations of radicalisation could push vulnerable young people into the hands of radicals). However, as general good pastoral care, staff should immediately take note and act upon any of the following:

- Discomfort about 'fitting in'
- Appearing distanced from their own culture or heritage
- Family tensions
- Isolation
- Low self-esteem or feelings of failure
- Lacking in empathy/poor social interaction
 - Disassociation with an old group of friends and arrival of a whole lot of new friends
- Significant change in appearance and/or behaviour
- Hostile or inappropriate questions about faith and identity
- Sudden interest in religion

- Unhappiness following a move from one country to another
- Rejection of civic or community life
- Overly developed sense of grievance triggered by perceptions of racism or discrimination
- Involvement with criminal groups and/or imprisonment
- Failure to understand the actions and motivations of others.
- Accessing of violent or extremist websites or possessing violent or extremist literature
- Contact with known extremists
- Justifying the use of violence to solve problems in society
- Joining an extremist organisation
- If your knowledge of the family leads you to believe there is a risk It should also be remembered that outside events, such as tensions in the local community, events in the country of origin, in the case of migrants, or major world events can also disproportionately affect the feelings and actions of young people.

All staff should be alert to these events and be ready to help young people understand them, and put them into context. The single point of contact for staff who have concerns about pupils vulnerable to radicalisation and extremism is the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Lauren Castle (Headteacher), the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead Vivien Bittermann (Assistant Headteacher) or Jane Colburn (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead).

Staff should follow the guidelines set out in the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and report any concerns using CPoms.

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

The school welcomes the support given by volunteers from the school and wider community. All arrangements regarding volunteers should be done via the Head of School and should not be allowed in school before appropriate checks have been made and confirmed by the Headteacher. The school will assess the suitability and effectiveness of input from external agencies or individuals to ensure that:

- Any messages communicated to pupils support fundamental British values and our school values.
- Any messages communicated to pupils are consistent with the ethos of the school and do not marginalise any communities, groups or individuals.
- Any messages communicated to students do not seek to glorify criminal activity or violent extremism or seek to radicalise pupils through extreme or narrow views of faith, religion or culture or other ideologies.
- Activities are properly embedded in the curriculum to avoid contradictory messages or duplication.
- Activities are matched appropriately to the needs and abilities of pupils. The school will follow necessary procedures if visitors do not follow these guidelines.

TRAINING

Prevent training is delivered regularly to school staff and governors and forms part of the induction process for any new member of staff.

USEFUL INFORMATION

● <http://www.preventtragedies.co.uk>

● <http://www.familiesmatter.org.uk>

● The DfE Due Diligence and Counter Extremism Group have a confidential telephone helpline 020 7340 76244.

● Channel is a voluntary programme which provides support for those who are vulnerable and may be being drawn towards terrorism.

● Schools may refer individuals to the Channel panel, however as the programme is voluntary the pupil may decline. There is an online training module available for school staff.

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