

St Mary Magdalen's Primary School



*The family of St Mary Magdalen's is
Centred on Christ to create
Inquisitive individuals
Who feel empowered to
Engage in the world in which they live*



Prevent Policy

Date of Implementation: Summer 2024
Date of Review: Summer 2026

Rationale

St Mary Magdalen'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 as important as safeguarding against any other vulnerability.

At St Mary Magdalen'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. We also uphold the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church and promote gospel values.

The Governing Body 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. Furthermore, our positive promotion of our behaviour policy equips our pupils with the skills to reject violence in all its forms.

Links to other Policies

Links can be made to the following policies:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policies
- Equality Policies
- Anti-bullying Policy
- The Whistle Blowing Policy
- Online Safety Policy

Aims and Principles

The main aims of this policy statement are to ensure that:

- staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalisation;
- they overcome professional disbelief that such issues will not happen here
- 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 why we need to be vigilant in school.
- All governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff 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.
- 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 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.
- The Office for Security & Counter Terrorism works to counter the threat from terrorism and their work is detailed in the counter terrorism strategy.

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

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 and Referrals

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at St Mary Magdalen’s Catholic Primary 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' and to refer any concerns through the appropriate channels (currently via the Designated Person for Child Protection and Safeguarding)

The Role of the Curriculum

- 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 RSE and PSHE 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 as we develop their character.
- 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. All teaching staff complete the Prevent training annually.

Policy Review

The Prevent Policy statement will be reviewed as part of the overall Safeguarding Procedures.