Prevent Duty Policy



St Vincent's Catholic Primary School

<u>The School Mission Statement</u> To love, serve and learn as Jesus shows us

DOCUMENT STATUS

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Statement of intent

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School recognises that pupils can be vulnerable to extremist ideology and radicalisation, and we are committed to protecting pupils from this risk as part of our safeguarding responsibilities.

Our commitment to safeguarding pupils against extremism, radicalisation and terrorism includes interventions and collaboration with other agencies including the police and the LA where appropriate and as required.

We support and will adhere to guidance from the DfE which requires schools to actively promote fundamental British values in order to enable pupils to challenge extremist views and ensure that pupils are encouraged to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance.

This policy relates to the potential radicalisation of pupils at our school. For guidance on specific terrorist incidents, please see our Invacuation, Lockdown and Evacuation Policy and procedures.

1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Children Act 1989
- Education Act 1996
- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Childcare Act 2006
- Equality act 2010
- Data Protection Act 2018
- UK GDPR
- Home Office (2024) 'Prevent duty guidance: England and Wales'
- DfE (2024) 'Keeping children safe in education'
- DfE (2023) 'The Prevent duty: safeguarding learners vulnerable to radicalisation'
- DfE (2023) 'Working Together to Safeguard Children'
- Home Office (2021) 'Channel Duty guidance: protecting people vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Invacuation, Lockdown and Evacuation Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Online Safety Policy
- Equality Information and Objectives Statement

2. Definitions

For the purpose of this policy:

Extremism – is defined as vocal or active opposition to fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. This includes calling for the death of members of the armed forces.

Radicalisation – is defined as the process of a person legitimising support for, or use of, terrorist violence.

Terrorism – is defined as an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people; causes serious damage to property; or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause.

3. Roles and responsibilities

The governing board will be responsible for:

- Ensuring the appropriate measures are in place to protect pupils from radicalisation.
- Ensuring the Prevent duty is seen as part of the school's wider safeguarding duties.

- Ensuring the school has a designated lead in a senior management role who is responsible for the delivery of Prevent.
- Having robust safeguarding policies in place to ensure that those at risk of radicalisation are identified and appropriate support is provided.
- Ensuring that policies are in place which are proportionate and based on an understanding, shared with partners, of the threat and risk in the local area, the phase of education, and the size and type of school.

The Executive Headteacher and Head of School will be responsible for:

- The overall implementation and management of this policy.
- Ensuring every staff member is familiar with the scope of this policy.
- Ensuring pupils are taught about British values through the curriculum.
- Ensuring that the teaching of the school curriculum encourages learners to respect other people, with particular regard to the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010.
- Ensuring the school is a safe space in which pupils can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and extremism, and are able to challenge these ideas.
- Undertaking a risk assessment which assesses how their learners or staff may be at risk of being radicalised into terrorism, including online.
- Identifying extremist risks in the local area.
- Ensuring that the school's safeguarding policies set out clear protocols for ensuring that any visiting speakers, whether invited by staff or by children themselves, are suitable and appropriately supervised.
- Ensuring that invited speakers do not undermine the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.
- Ensuring appropriate prevent training is undertaken by each member of staff.
- Ensuring DSLs or Prevent leads receive in-depth training, including on extremist and terrorist ideologies, how to make referrals and how to work with Channel panels updated at least every two years.
- Ensuring the school has robust procedures for sharing information, both internally and externally.
- Having measures in place to prevent their facilities being exploited by radicalisers.
- Ensuring that policies relating to the appropriate use of IT equipment and networks contain specific reference to the Prevent duty.

The DSL, and any deputies, will be responsible for:

- Handling any referrals to Prevent and/or Channel and supporting staff who make referrals.
- Co-operating as reasonably practicable with LA-led Channel panels.
- Following up any referrals made to the Prevent.
- Providing advice and support to staff on protecting pupils from the risk of radicalisation.
- Delivering staff training on the Prevent duty.
- Working with external agencies to support pupils at risk of being drawn into terrorism.

- Providing guidance to other staff members to help them support pupils at risk of being drawn into terrorism.
- Understanding local procedures for making a Prevent referral and making Prevent referrals where appropriate.
- Considering if it would be appropriate to share any information with a new school or college in advance of a pupil leaving, e.g. if the pupil is currently receiving support through the 'Channel' programme and the information would allow the new setting to have support in place for when the pupil arrives.
- Undertaking specific prevent awareness training and providing advice and support to other staff on protecting pupils from the risk of radicalisation.
- Maintaining an awareness of the risks relating to extremism in the local area.
- Maintaining a clear understanding of prevent reporting and referral mechanisms.

All staff members will be responsible for:

- Being alert to the risk factors of extremism and radicalisation and any changes in a pupil's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection.
- Raising any concerns with the DSL (or any deputies, in their absence).
- Notifying the DSL (or any deputies, in their absence) when they make any referrals to Prevent.
- Engaging in staff training on the Prevent duty.
- Using their professional judgement to identify pupils who may be at risk of radicalisation and acting proportionately.

4. Promoting fundamental British values

Through the national curriculum, the school will:

- Teach our pupils a broad and balanced international history.
- Represent the cultures of all of our pupils.
- Teach a wide range of English and non-English literature.
- Commemorate World War 1 and 2.
- Discuss the UK's relations with the rest of Europe, the Commonwealth and the wider world.

Through our social, moral, spiritual and cultural (SMSC) programme, the school will:

- Enable pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence.
- Enable pupils to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England.
- Encourage pupils to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely.
- Enable pupils to acquire a broad general knowledge of, and respect for, public institutions and services in England.
- Further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling pupils to acquire an appreciation of, and respect for, their own and other cultures.
- Encourage respect for other people.

• Encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.

The school will do this by:

- Including material on the strengths, advantages and disadvantages of democracy, and how democracy and the law work in Britain as part of our curriculum.
- Ensuring that all pupils within the school have a voice that is listened to, e.g. by demonstrating how democracy works via a school council whose members are voted for by the pupils.
- Using opportunities such as general or local elections to hold mock elections to offer pupils the chance to engage in politics from an early age.
- Offering a debate club to provide pupils with the opportunity to learn how to argue and defend points of view.
- Using teaching resources from a wide variety of sources to help pupils understand a range of faiths.
- Considering the role of extra-curricular activities, including any activity run directly by pupils, in promoting fundamental British values.

5. Community links

The school will engage in regular community round-table discussions with local community and religious leaders, and local law enforcement. Governing board meetings will include discussion about extremism and terrorism where appropriate.

The school will operate an open-door policy for community members to report concerns.

The school will, where appropriate, partake in community festivals, religious celebrations and other events. The school will select a range of charities to support across the year which represent our school community, including local community groups.

The school will develop effective partnerships with local prevent leads, the police and the LA through multi-agency forums.

The school will maintain an up-to-date awareness of the risk and threat posed in the local area and the latest developments in best practice through local partnerships.

6. Safeguarding from extremism

The school will do its utmost to safeguard pupils from being drawn into extremism and terrorism, whilst also ensuring it protects the right to freedom of expression. This policy is not intended or designed to restrict or prevent legitimate and lawful congregation or debate.

The school has a dedicated DSL who will deal with any incidents of extremism and/or terrorism within our school community.

The school has strong relationships with our local safeguarding partners and will involve them at the earliest opportunity if safeguarding issues arise.

The school will encourage any pupil, parent, staff member or member of the wider school community to speak to the DSL if they have concerns about:

- Pupils becoming radicalised.
- Groups, clubs or societies with extremist or radical views.
- Friends and/or families of pupils becoming radicalised or involved in extremism.
- Pupils planning to visit known areas of conflict.
- Members of the school and wider community attempting to draw young and/or vulnerable pupils into extremism.

Visitors and speakers coming into the school will be vetted prior to them having access to pupils. All materials handed out to pupils, whether by teachers or visitors and speakers, will be checked by the headteacher. Due diligence checks will also be carried out on those hiring and using the school premises,

The school will incorporate appropriate filtering and monitoring systems to limit pupils' exposure to online risks, including extremist content.

The DSL and ICT team will work together to ensure that there is a clear reporting process in place where filtering systems raise safeguarding or prevent-related concerns.

Preventing radicalisation

The school will assess the risk of pupils being drawn into terrorism through identifying the factors that affect children in the local area and knowing how to identify those at risk.

Allegations and concerns of radicalisation and/or terrorism will always be taken seriously and staff will act proportionately, which may include making a Prevent referral.

The school is aware that extremist propaganda is widely available online, and will educate pupils to ensure that British values are promoted regularly to encourage pupils to develop an appreciation of society. The school will work with local religious and cultural organisations to instil a strong sense of identity in our pupils, as well as a clear place and purpose within the school.

All internet activity that takes place on site will be recorded, as well as activity on any schoolowned computers, laptops and tablets off site, and appropriate filters will be installed to protect children from terrorist and extremist material online, in accordance with the Online Safety Policy. In accordance with KCSIE and our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, pupils will be taught about the importance of staying safe online through PSHE lessons.

The school recognises that pupils' parents and families are best placed to spot signs of radicalisation and, as such, will promote effective engagement with parents and families.

The school will always aim to integrate and engage every child within the school community, and in the wider community. A range of different religious and cultural festivals will be celebrated across the year giving every pupil the opportunity to take part.

The school will monitor and assess incidents which suggest pupils are engaging, or are at risk of engaging, in extremist activity and/or radicalisation. Where a pupil has been identified as at risk of radicalisation, the school will take action proportionate to the incident or risk.

7. Identifying concerns

Although extremist behaviour can be presented in many forms, the school recognises the following as potential indicators of radicalisation or a susceptibility to radicalisation:

- Disclosure about extremist or radicalised behaviour by pupils this could include exposure to materials outside of school
- Use of specific terms associated with certain ideological views, e.g. 'hate' language
- Intelligence reports from local and national agencies regarding the radicalisation of groups of people in the local area
- Focus on specific narratives that highlight particular extremist views
- Evidence of accessing online materials that include extremist materials
- Refusal to accept views expressed by others which is counter to the school's Equality Information and Objectives Policy
- Documented concerns raised by parents or family members about the changing behaviour of the pupil
- References to an extremist narrative in the pupil's work
- Disassociation from existing friendship groups
- A loss of interest in activities in which they previously engaged
- Behavioural characteristics, such as low self-esteem, isolation, and perceptions of failure and injustice
- Family tensions
- Events affecting their country or region of origin
- Alienation from UK values
- Grievance triggered by personal experience of discrimination
- Property damage
- Refusal to cooperate with the requests of teachers or other adults

When assessing whether a pupil is at risk of radicalisation, staff will ask themselves the following questions:

- Does the pupil have access to extremist influences through the internet?
- Does the pupil possess or actively seek extremist material?
- Does the pupil sympathise with, or support, extremist groups or behaviour in their speech or written work?
- Does the pupil's demeanour suggest a new social, religious or political influence, e.g. through jewellery or clothing?
- Has the pupil previously been a victim of discrimination or a religious crime?
- Has the pupil experienced any major disagreements with their peers, family or faith groups, leading to rejection, isolation or exclusion?
- Does the pupil display an irregular and distorted view of religion or politics?
- Does the pupil display a strong objection towards specific cultures, faiths or race?
- Is the pupil a foreign national awaiting a decision regarding deportation or immigration?
- Is there an irregular pattern of travel within the pupil's family?
- Has the pupil witnessed or suffered from trauma or violence in a war zone or through sectarian conflict?
- Is there evidence of a relative or family friend displaying extremist views?

- Has the pupil travelled for extended periods of time to international locations?
- Does the pupil have experience of poverty, disadvantage, discrimination or social exclusion?
- Does the pupil display a lack of affinity or understanding for others?
- Is the pupil a victim of social isolation?
- Does the pupil have insecure, conflicted or absent family relationships?

Critical indicators include where a pupil is:

- In contact with extremist recruiters.
- Articulating support for extremist causes or leaders.
- Accessing extremist websites.
- In possession of extremist literature.
- Using extremist narratives and a global ideology to explain personal disadvantage.
- Justifying the use of violence to solve societal issues.
- Joining extremist organisations.
- Making significant changes to their appearance and/or behaviour.

The school will encourage staff to engage with online government resources, including the website Educate Against Hate, and the Prevent e-learning modules provided by the Home Office.

8. Making a referral

In accordance with the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, if any member of staff has any concerns about a pupil, they will raise this with the DSL.

Parents will be contacted to discuss the issue and investigate where there are any mitigating home circumstances, unless doing so would put the pupil at further risk of harm. A decision will be made at this meeting to determine whether a referral should be made to Prevent. In most cases, the DSL will refer the case to Prevent where there is a radicalisation concern, as appropriate.

If there is a concern about potential radicalisation into terrorism or reason to believe that someone is susceptible to radicalisation staff members will make referrals using the Prevent national referral form – the DSL will be notified in all cases and will support staff members who do so.

What happens when a person is referred to Prevent?

Prevent referrals will usually follow the process set out below:

- 1. The local police force will look at each referral first. They will check if there is an immediate security threat. They will also check if there is a genuine risk of radicalisation.
- 2. If the person isn't at risk of radicalisation, they will not be deemed a case for Prevent. Where appropriate, the person may instead be offered other support, for example being referred to mental health services or social services.

- 3. If there is a risk of radicalisation, a panel of local experts will assess the referral. The panel is led by the LA and may include the police, children's services, social services, education professionals and mental health care professionals.
- 4. If the panel decides that a person is at risk, they will be invited to join a support programme called Channel. This is voluntary, so a person can choose whether to take part. If a person chooses not to take part in the programme, they may be offered other support instead and any risk will be managed by the police.

The support provided by the Channel programme may include the following:

- Mentoring
- Mental health support such as counselling
- Education or career development support
- Online safety training for parents

The police will be notified immediately if someone is about to put themselves or others in immediate danger, or if they appear to be involved in planning to carry out a criminal offence and the school's emergency procedures will be followed.

The DSL will record and retain all incidents for school records in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK GDPR, as outlined in the Data Protection Policy.

The school will ensure that all of those involved in a referral understand that referrals are not made to the Home Office and that getting support from Prevent is not a punishment and will not go on a person's criminal record.

9. Training

All staff will attend safeguarding training which includes information on preventing people from being drawn into terrorism or extremist groups. Prevent training will be provided annually and will be updated as required. Training will include details of the 'Notice, Check, Share' process.

Staff will be provided with regular updates, notices and emails regarding Prevent and antiextremism as required.

The SLT and DSL will receive additional support from local partnerships and training on local processes for Prevent. When identifying training needs, consideration will be given to the level of knowledge needed for different roles.

Records will be maintained of training provided to ensure that training needs are being met and kept up to date.

Training will be quality assured by the DSL and its effectiveness reviewed regularly. The school will make use of government quality assured prevent training resources.

Staff will be trained to be aware of and to identify concerning behaviour that may indicate a pupil is susceptible to radicalisation, e.g. voicing intolerant narratives.

Training will take account of, and be proportionate to, the risk of terrorism and extremism in the local area.

Staff will be trained to be vigilant toward the push and pull factors that could make a pupil vulnerable to being drawn into extremism or radicalisation.

Staff will look out for 'push factors' including where a pupil may be feeling:

- Isolated
- That they do not belong
- That they have no purpose
- Low in self-esteem
- That their aspirations are unmet
- Angry or frustrated
- A sense of injustice
- Confused about life or the world
- Real or perceived personal grievances

In conjunction with these push factors, staff will be aware of the 'pull factors' that could make extremist or terrorist groups and ideologies attractive to those experiencing the above feelings.

Staff will be aware that pull factors can include where extremist or terrorist groups:

- Offer a sense of community and a support network.
- Promise fulfilment or excitement.
- Make the pupil feel special and part of a wider missions.
- Offer a very narrow, manipulated version of an identity that often supports stereotypical gender norms.
- Offer inaccurate answers or falsehoods to grievances.
- Encourage conspiracy theories.
- Promote an 'us vs. them' mentality.
- Blame specific communities for grievances.
- Encourage the use of hatred and violent actions to get justice.
- Encourage ideas of supremacy.

Further advice on training will be sought from the LA safeguarding team as appropriate.

10. Warrington's Prevent Programme

Warrington's Prevent Programme is designed to:-

- Divert vulnerable individuals away from the radicalisation process and ensure that they are given the appropriate advice and support through local safeguarding structures
- Deter extremist groups from creating disharmony, division and spreading hate
- Keep the majority safe from the few who seek to harm others
- ensure that sectors and institutions develop an appropriate response to tackle extremism
- Ensure that media and wider public recognise that the illegal or extreme actions of a few individuals from a particular background do not reflect the values and views of others with the same background, faith or belief

• Ensure that the reputation of the city and its residents is maintained and enhanced.

For further information about Warrington's Prevent Program please contact Stephen Gillham the single point of contact (SPOC) for the WBC on 01925 442928

Prevent Multi-agency group

The Warrington Prevent Multi-agency group is provides support to people at risk of being radicalised, recognising that the radicalisation of vulnerable children and adults is a safeguarding issue. The Channel Panel is chaired by a representative from the Local Authority.

The objectives of the group are to:-

- to identify individuals at risk of being drawn into violent extremism
- to assess the nature and extent of that risk
- to develop the most appropriate support for the individuals concerned.
- to consider the strategic plan for prevent and implement any necessary changes

It is important to trust your professional judgement - if you are concerned that someone is at risk of getting involved in extremism, you should discuss this with your DSL without delay.

The DSL should contact The Cheshire Police Prevent Team to discuss if a referral needs to be made.

When a referral is received, the Channel Co-ordinator will, in partnership with other safeguarding professionals, investigate further to assess the nature and extent of the risk and develop the most appropriate support package for the individual concerned.

Cheshire Police Prevent Team can be contacted on: prevent@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Please copy Stephen Gillham into these emails: sgillham@warrington.gov.uk

11. Monitoring and review

This policy is reviewed annually by the DSL / Executive Headteacher / Head of School.

Appendix 1: Education Check list – Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation



SCHOOL SELF ASSESSMENT for PREVENT

PREVENT OBJECTIVE 1: LEADERSHIP – Structures are in place and visible throughout the school

PREVENT OBJECTIVE 2: CAPABILITIES – Staff and governors are adequately trained on Prevent Duty

PREVENT OBJECTIVE 3: RISK ASSESSMENT – Risks around extremism are understood and appropriate referral process is in place

PREVENT OBJECTIVE 4: WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP – Develop multi-agency approaches to address safeguarding issues and deliver quality curriculums

PREVENT OBJECTIVE 5: TEACHING and LEARNING – Develop effective learning opportunities to safeguard children from extremism and promote community cohesion

SCHOOL NAME:

Name of assessor(s): Dominic Vernon

Date of assessment: September 2019

Last reviewed: February 2025

Evidence	Red/Amber/ Green	Self-Assessed Rating	
The Senior Leadership Team and Governors are aware of the Prevent Strategy and its objectives		Red (R): not able to	
There is an identified strategic Prevent lead within the school who understands the expectations and key priorities to deliver the Prevent Duty		evidence any Amber (A): evidence	
Supporting young people vulnerable to radicalisation is embedded within Safeguarding Policies and Procedures		of some but not all Green (G): evidence of all and more	
Prevent safeguarding responsibilities are explicit within the School's Safeguarding Team and take into account the policies and procedures of the Warrington Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)			
There is a clear awareness of roles and responsibilities throughout organisation regarding Prevent			
The Senior Leadership Team drives the implementation of the Prevent Duty			
2. CAPABILITIES – Staff and governors adequately trained on Prevent Duty			
Evidence	Red/Amber/ Green	Self-Assessed Rating	
Evidence A training plan is in place to deliver Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent (WRAP) so that key staff and Governors understand the risk of radicalisation and extremism and know how to recognise and refer children who may be vulnerable	Green	Rating Red (R): not able to evidence any Amber (A): evidence	
A training plan is in place to deliver Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent (WRAP) so that key staff and Governors understand the risk of radicalisation and extremism and know how to recognise and refer children	Green	Rating Red (R): not able to evidence any	

3. RISK ASSESSMENT – Risks around extremism are understood and appropriate referral process is in place

	Red/Amber/	Self-Assessed
Evidence	Green	Rating
All key staff show understanding of risks affecting children and how to support individual children who may be at risk		Red (R): not able to evidence any
A single point of contact [SPoC] for any Prevent concerns raised by staff, students or parents within the school has been identified		Amber (A): evidence of some but not all
SPoC understands when it is appropriate to make a referral to the Channel programme		Green (G): evidence
Prevent referrals/notifications are being managed or overseen by relevant staff		of all and more
An audit trail for notification reports/referrals exists		
A process is in place to identify and develop 'lessons learnt'		

	Red/Amber/	Self-Assessed
Evidence	Green	Rating
Partner agency communication channels have been developed – Multi Agency Safeguarding & Screening		
Service is the first port of call when outside agencies need to be consulted or for making a Channel referral.		Red (R): not able to
Mass can be contacted by or fill in the Multi Agency child Protection Referral Form		evidence any
		Amber (A): evidence
SPOC identified in Children's Services to liaise on a range of safeguarding issues		of some but not all
		Green (G): evidence
Effective links established with Children's Services for support on radicalisation and extremism		of all and more
School has policy/procedure for working with partner organisations, individuals and external users of school		
premises		

	Red/Amber/	Self Assessed
Evidence	Green	Rating
School has a range of initiatives and activities that promote the spiritual, moral, social and emotional needs		
of children aimed at protecting them from radicalisation and extremist influences		Red (R): not able to
The school delivers training that helps students develop skills to critically assess information, particularly on-		evidence any Amber (A): evidence
line and through social media – supporting students to recognise risk and make safe choices.		
School has systems in place to safeguard students from accessing extremist websites e.g. IT filters/firewalls		of some but not all
in place and digital footprints monitored		Green (G): evidence of all and more
Students are aware of the benefits of community cohesion and the damaging effects of extremism on		
community relations		
Schools are able to provide a safe environment for dialogue around controversial issues and support students		
to understand how they can influence and participate in decision-making.		l l

For further guidance please contact:

Stephen Gillham Education Safeguarding Officer Education Safeguarding Team New Town House Buttermarket Street Warrington WA1 2NJ

Tel: (01925) 442928

Email: sgillham@warrington.gov.uk

Or educationsafeguarding@warrington.gov.uk



Appendix 2 – Useful resources

Useful resources for Prevent, radicalisation and extremism:

1. Protecting Children from Radicalisation; The Prevent Duty https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protecting-children-from-radicalisation-the-prevent-duty

2. Prevent for FE – useful links for non FE also; www.preventforfeandtraining.org.uk