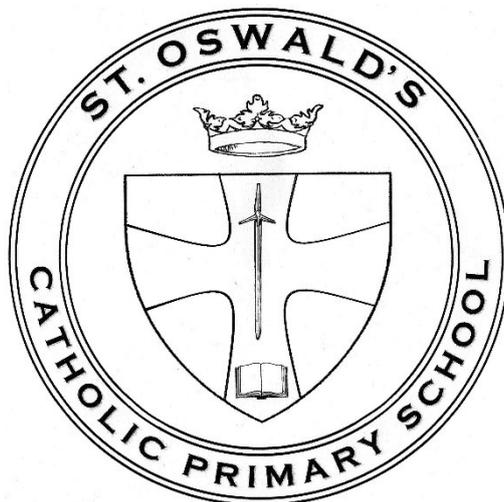


St Oswald's Catholic Primary School



Tackling extremism and Radicalisation Policy 2023-2024

Approved by:	Approval date	Renewal date
Full Governors	Spring 2023	Spring 2024

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Mission Statement

This is St Oswald's Catholic Primary School's policy for Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation Policy and is set within the context of the whole school aims and Mission Statement:

"Together with Jesus, we will learn and Grow in Faith".

St Oswald's Catholic Primary School is committed to providing a secure environment for pupils, where children feel safe and are kept safe. All staff and volunteers working at St Oswald's School recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility irrespective of the role they undertake or whether their role has direct contact or responsibility for children or not.

Under the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 the school also has a statutory duty to 'have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.'

This policy is one element within our overall school arrangements to Safeguard and Promote the Welfare of all Children in line with our statutory duties set out in section 175 of the Education Act 2002 and should be read in conjunction with the Safeguarding Policy and Child Protection Policy.

This Policy also draws upon the guidance contained in DfE Guidance "Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2022"; and specifically, DCSF Resources "Learning Together to be Safe", "Prevent: Resources Guide", "Tackling Extremism in the UK", DfE's "Teaching Approaches that help Build Resilience to Extremism among Young People"

Our School Aims

'This is a Catholic school which seeks to live out the values of Jesus Christ. We promote these values by our words and deeds, and Catholic doctrine and practice therefore permeates every aspect of the school's activity. We provide a Catholic curriculum, which is broad and balanced, recognising that every pupil is unique and is created in the image of God (Gen 1:27).

Our curriculum is designed to enable every pupil to discern their vocation and to be well-equipped to follow it as active citizens in service to the world. Catholic Religious Education is the "core of the core curriculum" (Pope St John Paul II) 4 and the foundation of the entire educational process. We also provide a wide range of extra-curricular activities and strong pastoral support. We incorporate democratic principles, value the rule of law, support individual liberty and foster a community in which different faiths and beliefs are respected."

We expect a high standard of personal behaviour in a secure environment that fosters co-operation, self-confidence, independence, tolerance and positive attitudes to learning. This is achieved through high expectations for both individual children and groups of children, whilst promoting an environment in which every child feels secure, respected and able to make a valued contribution.

At our school, there is no place for extremist views of any kind. Our children know that our school is a safe place, and all adults at St Oswald's Catholic Primary School have a duty of care to ensure that this happens.

The government definition of extremism in its 'Prevent Strategy' is:

'Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs; and/or calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas.'

We recognise that exposure to extremism materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes and will be addressed as a safeguarding concern as set out in this document. We acknowledge that if we fail to challenge extremist views we are failing to protect our pupils, and tackling extremism comes under the remit of our Designated Child Protection Officers.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs M Walsh (Headteacher)

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads:

Miss D Hay (Deputy Headteacher)

Mrs J Finch Home Liaison

Mrs S Mahon Home Liaison

Education is a powerful tool against the ignorance, division and fear created by extremism. We will provide children with the knowledge, skills and critical thinking to challenges and debate in an informed way.

School Ethos and Practice

At St Oswald's Catholic Primary School, we provide a broad and balanced curriculum, so that our children embrace difference and diversity, and feel valued members of our school community.

We are aware that children can be exposed to extremist influences or prejudiced views from early childhood through a variety of sources and media, and that they may at times reflect or display views which may be discriminatory, prejudiced or extremist, or use offensive language.

Any discrimination, prejudice or extremist views, including offensive language, shown by pupils or staff will be dealt with in line with our Behaviour Policy and staff Code of Conduct, and will always be addressed.

Linked policies:

Behaviour and Discipline Policy

Child Protection Policy

Equality Policy

ICT, Internet and E-safety Policy

Whistleblowing Policy

As part of wider safeguarding responsibilities school staff will be alert to:

Children who may be at risk of extremism and radicalisation:

There is no single profile, however the following may lead to a child becoming involved in extremism and radicalisation:

- The child may experience social isolation.
- They may be searching for answers to questions about identity, faith and belonging.
- They may be distanced from their cultural/religious heritage and experiences.
- They may experience local community tensions.
- They may be vulnerable because of their own low self-esteem.
- They may have experienced bereavement or loss.
- They may feel aggrieved by experiences of racism, discrimination or government policy.
- They may have special educational needs.
- They may have perceptions of injustice.
- They may have little understanding of the consequences of their actions or little awareness of the motivations of others.
- They may experience a feeling of failure.
- They may be driven by a need for identity, social network and support.
- They may be driven by a desire for adventure, excitement or a change in their status.

Possible indicators that a child may be becoming radicalised:

- Use of inappropriate language.
- Adopt a 'them and us' approach.
- Possess extremist literature.
- Significant changes in appearance and/or behaviour.
- Identifying with a group or ideology.
- Accessing extremist websites and social networking sites.
- Advocating violence to resolve political and social situations.
- Greater degree of personal social isolation, alongside greater association with known extremists.
- Making contact with known extremist recruiters.
- Seeking to recruit others to their extremist ideology.
- Drawing pictures or symbols, including in their exercise books.
- Unwilling to engage in class activities.
- Displaying racist and homophobic language.
- Changes in dress, tattoos, badges on clothing.
- Change in vocabulary.
- Prone to outbursts.
- Asking unusual/concerning questions.
- Other changes in behaviour associated with neglect and a change in someone's emotional wellbeing.

Working in Partnership

St Oswald's Catholic Primary School is aware for the need to work in partnership with other agencies and follow Liverpool Safeguarding Children's Board procedures and recommendations. We will also draw on advice from the Police Prevent Co-ordinator.

School will follow usual safeguarding procedures and act to protect children who are at risk.

Teaching Approaches

We place high priority on spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, which we achieve through our quality delivery of:

- RE
- PHSE
- Circle Time Activities
- Values-led curriculum
- School assemblies
- School visits

Safe messages, British Values and Prevent are identified through cross-curricular subject areas. This will instill in our children a positive and strong self-identity and foster a sense of belonging.

We also adhere to the main methods outlined in the governmental guidance 'Teaching Approaches that help build resilience to extremism among young people.' (DfE 2011):

- We make good connections with our children through good teaching design and a child-centred approach
- We facilitate a safe place for discussion and dialogue
- We equip our children with the skills, knowledge, understanding, and awareness to develop resilience.
- We promote the values of democracy through our School Council, Prefects and many opportunities to vote on decisions regarding our school.
- We value the rule of law and individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance to those of other faiths, backgrounds and beliefs. We teach all our children to respect each other and tolerate differences.
- We keep our pupils safe and prepare them for life in modern multi cultural Britain and globally.

Staff Training

Staff in St Oswald's Catholic Primary School receive annual safeguarding training, which includes how to identify children at risk from radicalisation and extremism.

The following are available to teachers and leaders to get advice.

- Advice on Promoting Fundamental British Values in Schools' (DfE 2014)
- The Prevent Duty (Statutory Guidance for Schools and Childcare Providers DfE 2021)
- How Social Media is used to encourage travel to Syria and Iraq (Briefing Note to Schools, DfE 2015)
- Confidential Ant Terrorist Hotline 0800 789 321
- My Former Life Project – foundation4peace.org
- www.got.uk.net/
- www.preventforschools.org
- Safer Internet Centre Website
- WRAP training provided by Clive Finch
- CHANNEL general awareness training module
- Think u know website

The role of the Governing Body

The Governing Body of our school will undertake appropriate training to ensure that they are clear about their role and the parameters of their responsibilities as Governors, including their statutory safeguarding duties.

The Governing Body support our ethos and values, and will support us in tackling any form of radicalisation or extremism.