

## **ANTI-RADICALISATION POLICY**

*“All schools in England, whether in the state or independent sectors, including those with a faith ethos, must expect that they will be inspected and assessed on their measures to protect their pupils from extremist material.”*

(Report from the Prime Minister’s Task Force on Tackling Radicalisation and Extremism  
HM Government 2013)

Holy Family is aware that there are different forms of radicalisation. It is difficult therefore to determine those pupils who may be at greatest risk, particularly at a time of high social media usage, potentially unrestricted internet access and the prevalence of aggressive targeting of young people. In such contexts, it is also extremely difficult to identify potential vulnerabilities within a school community.

Holy Family has a statutory duty regarding safeguarding to ensure we protect the children from radicalisation.

Holy Family’s policy is a new policy but will link to Safeguarding, Anti-bullying, Equal Opportunities, E-Safety and British Values.

There are no British values that are distinctly British or different to other democratic societies. British values are a statement about the values we set and hold true across all aspects of life in contemporary Britain. These values may develop and change in accordance with changes in the law and in contemporary society, although many are long-standing and traditional in nature. British Values underpin the school ethos in which a set of values are promoted across all aspects of the life of the school.

Holy Family ensures that pupils have,

- an understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process;
  - an appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their wellbeing and safety;
  - an understanding that there is a separation of power between the executive and the judiciary, and that while some public bodies such as the police and the army can be held to account through Parliament, others such as the courts maintain independence;
  - an understanding that the freedom to choose and hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law;
  - an acceptance that other people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated, and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour; and
- an understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination.

Holy Family will not 'promote' teachings, beliefs or opinions that conflict with individuals own beliefs or opinions and neither will Holy Family promote discrimination against people or groups on the basis of their belief, opinion or background.

***Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools. Ref: DFE-00679-2014***

### **Aims and Principles**

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

- Fully aware and vigilant about the opportunities and potential for radicalisation;
- Conscious that they must overcome professional disbelief that such issues will not happen here and in our community;
- Alert to the attitudes and behaviours of our pupils as indicators of change which may require purposeful action;
- Aware of the actions and procedures they should take in response to any concerns or indicators;
- Aware of the ways in which they should work alongside other professional bodies and agencies to ensure that our pupils are safe from harm.

**Holy Family's Catholic ethos underpins all aspects of school life and ensure that we:**

- Foster and promote an understanding and appreciation of other faiths, cultures and religions
- Provide equality of opportunity, regardless of culture, religion, language, background or race.
- Promote good relationships with all stakeholders and among all those involved in the school and the wider community.
- Help pupils to recognise and develop their own talents and encourage them to become responsible citizens
- Develop respect and tolerance towards others through ...
- Instil our Code of Conduct which empowers our pupils with the understanding, judgement and skills to reject violence and extremism in all its forms.

**The principle objectives are that:**

- At Holy Family we are fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our pupils
- Pupils are encouraged to adopt and live out the gospel values that underpin the school ethos. These complement the 'British Values' of tolerance, mutual respect, individual liberty, democracy and the rule of law.
- Pupils are helped to understand the importance of democracy and freedom of speech through assemblies, PSHE lessons, circle time and opportunities to volunteer or seek election and support the work of the School Council.

- Pupils learn how to keep themselves safe, in school and when using the internet (E-safety). They alert those with responsibility when they suspect inappropriate activities are being promoted or when more vulnerable pupils might be in danger.
  - Pupils develop understanding of the difference between the law of the land and religious law.
  - Pupils are encouraged to participate in local community events so that they appreciate and value their neighbours and friends, as well as those in the community who may not share their faith or background.
  - Pupils develop their interest and engagement with real world issues while exploring the spiritual, moral, social and cultural dimensions, through links made across our planned curriculum and the application of their critical thinking skills.
  - Pupil's wellbeing, confidence and resilience are developed through our planned curriculum and extended learning opportunities.
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- Pupils develop the capacity to think critically and making good choices, so they understand right from wrong as well as the impact and consequences that their actions might have on themselves and others.
  - Governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff demonstrate an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school.
  - Governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff are encouraged to intervene by reporting concerns and evidence of extremist actions or behaviours.
  - We rely on our strong ethos to steer our work and ensure that the pastoral care of our pupils informs them of the dangers of negative influences.
  - At Holy Family we recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation is no different from safeguarding against any other vulnerability.
  - At Holy Family all staff are expected to implement the values which uphold and promote the fundamental principles of British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

### **Links to key Government documents:**

As a national context, The Office for Security & Counter Terrorism works to counter the threat from terrorism and their work is detailed in the counter terrorism strategy CONTEST.

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

Our role, as a school, is outlined more specifically in one key document. The DCSF document *Learning together to be safe: A toolkit to help schools contribute to the prevention of violent extremism*. However, the DfE document *Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools*, and the Ofsted Handbook

*for the inspection of schools* also set out the current expectations for evidence gathered as part of school inspection.

Primarily our work will be concerned with PREVENTION as outlined in the DCSF document *Learning together to be safe: A toolkit to help schools contribute to the prevention of violent extremism*, but this will also reference the guidance set out within the Surrey Prevent Toolkit. To support this work, there is a member of staff with the responsibility as a lead for PREVENT. This lead person is Mr Tindall who is also Designated Safeguarding Lead within the school.

In formulating this policy, the Governors have taken account of the guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) requiring all public bodies to make explicit their preventative measures to minimise the threat of extremism and radicalisation in our setting. Our Governing Body has a **zero tolerance** approach to extremist behaviour for all community members. Any person who is found to be attempting to radicalise others will be permanently excluded from school. On each review of the policy, the following questions will be considered to ensure that the policy does not require fundamental changes:

How might our school further promote a culture of whistle-blowing?

Should our school review our values?

Should we review the way in which our values are enacted in the daily life of the school?

What might the threats of radicalisation be within our community?

What other existing school policies might we need to review or link with this?

What further action do I need to take?

Date Policy Accepted by the Governing Body: September 2023