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**St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Moorthorpe,  
A Voluntary Academy**

**Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation 2017-2018**

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# *“Christ at the Centre”*

## Mission Statement

St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School has the presence and power of Jesus Christ at its centre. It is a community which is governed by Gospel Values and where Christ’s command for us to love God, and to love one another, is central to all we do.

Through the clear, visual Catholic identity of St Joseph’s, our vision for Catholic education is fulfilled through the educational experiences and personal curriculum we provide for our children.

Prayer and Worship are at the heart of day to day life within our school and it is our desire for each child’s journey of faith to celebrate their unique gifts and talents, made in the image and likeness of God.

St Joseph’s has strong and positive relationships with the wider community, including our partner schools within the Bishop Konstant Catholic Academy Trust (BKCAT). Links between home, school and our parish community, are also significant and central to our mission to serve the Church and create the family feeling of ‘belonging’.

*St. Joseph's, Moorthorpe, 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)<sup>4</sup> 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.*

<sup>4</sup>Address of His Holiness John Paul II to the bishops of Great Britain on their *Ad Limina* visit, 26 March 1992

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. Every member of staff recognises that safeguarding against radicalisation and extremism is no different to safeguarding against any other vulnerability in today's society.

This policy sets out our beliefs, strategies and procedures to protect vulnerable individuals from being radicalised or exposed to extremist views, by identifying who they are and promptly providing them with support.

In formulating this policy, the Academy Council have taken account of the guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) who has called for all public bodies to make explicit, their preventative measures, to minimise the threat of extremism in their setting.

The 'Office for Security and 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.

## **Aims and Principles**

The main aims of this policy are to ensure that staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalisation; that they overcome professional disbelief that such issues will not happen here and ensure that we work alongside other professional bodies, and agencies, to ensure that our pupils are safe from harm.

This policy is intended to provide a framework for dealing with issues relating to vulnerability, radicalisation and exposure to extreme views. We recognise that we are well placed to be able to identify safeguarding issues and this policy sets out how the school will deal with such incidents, identifying how the curriculum, and ethos, underpins our actions.

Our curriculum, both formally and informally, promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. Children are encouraged to express themselves through discussions with staff and each

other. Children learn about other faiths and are taught about how to stay safe when using the internet. (See our British Values Statement and SMSC Policy, for specific examples)

Our objectives are that:

- All Academy Councillors, 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, as well as our wider community.
- All Academy Councillors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff will know what the school policy is on tackling extremism and radicalisation and will swiftly follow the policy guidance when issues arise.
- All pupils (as appropriate to their age) will understand the dangers of radicalisation and exposure to extremist views; building resilience against these and knowing what to do if they experience them.
- All parents/carers 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 that they are appropriate and effective.
- Pupils are helped to understand the importance of democracy and freedom of speech.
- Pupils are taught how to keep themselves safe, both in and out of school, as well as 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.
- Pupils are supported in making good choices from a very young age, so they understand the impact and consequences of their actions on others.

## 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.

The Academy Council has a **zero tolerance** approach to extremist behaviour for all members of the school community. 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 behaviour, equips our pupils with the skills to reject violence in all its forms.

There are a number of behaviours which may indicate a child is at risk of being radicalised or exposed to extreme views. These include:

- Spending increasing time in the company of other suspected extremists.
- Changing their style of dress or personal appearance to accord with the group.
- Day-to-day behaviour becoming increasingly centred on an extremist ideology, group or cause.
- Loss of interest in other friends and activities not associated with the extremist ideology, group or cause.
- Possession of materials or symbols associated with an extremist cause.
- Attempts to recruit others to the group/cause.
- Communications with others that suggests identification with a group, cause or ideology.
- Using insulting or derogatory names for another group.
- Increase in prejudice-related incidents committed by that person – these may include:
  - Physical or verbal assault
  - Provocative behaviour
  - Damage to property

- Derogatory name calling
- Possession of prejudice related materials
- Prejudice related ridicule or name calling
- Inappropriate forms of address
- Refusal to co-operate
- Attempts to recruit to prejudice related organisation
- Condoning or supporting violence towards others

## **Procedures for Referrals**

Although serious incidents, involving radicalisation, have not occurred at St Joseph's, to date, it is important for us to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues which affect the region and society in which we teach.

Staff are reminded to suspend any 'professional disbelief' that instances of radicalisation 'could not happen here' and to be 'professionally inquisitive' where concerns arise, referring any concerns through the appropriate channels, currently via the Designated Safeguarding Lead – Mr Welsh (Acting Headteacher), the Deputy Safeguarding Lead – Mrs Daley (Safeguarding, Pastoral, Attendance & Behaviour Lead), or the Designated Safeguarding Staff Members – Mrs Millard (Acting Deputy Headteacher) & Mrs Rowley (School Business Manager).

This policy is strictly adhered to should issues arise.

We believe that it is possible to intervene to protect people who are vulnerable. Early intervention is vital and staff must be aware of the established processes for front line professionals to refer concerns about individuals and/or groups. We must have the confidence to challenge, the confidence to intervene and we must ensure that we have strong safeguarding practices based on the most up-to-date guidance and best practice.

Our Designated Safeguarding Team is trained as leaders for child protection, and safeguarding, and will deal swiftly with any referrals made by staff or with concerns raised by staff.

## **Staff Training**

Through training opportunities in school, we ensure that all our staff is:

- Fully aware of the threats, risks and vulnerabilities that are linked to radicalisation;
- Aware of the process of radicalisation and how this might be identified early on;
- Aware of how we can provide support, as a school, to ensure that our children are resilient and able to resist involvement in radical or extreme activities.

The Designated Safeguarding Team has, and continues, to receive face-to-face Prevent awareness training via local and national providers and platforms, including Wakefield LA, Ofsted, the NAHT and the DfE.

## **Visitors and the Use of School Premises**

Upon arriving at the school, all visitors, including contractors, will be given a copy of our safeguarding leaflet, containing relevant information about the child protection and safeguarding procedures at St Joseph's, including being made aware of who the DSLs are and how to report any concerns which they may experience, as well as other guidance information.

If any agreement is made to allow non-school groups or organisations to use the premises, appropriate checks will be made before agreeing the contract. Usage will be monitored and in the event of any behaviour not in-keeping with this policy, the school will terminate the contract and contact the relevant bodies, e.g. the Police.

## **Engagement with external partners/Dealing with referrals**

As with other safeguarding activity, Prevent work often involves a range of people with breadth of experience working together; St Joseph's has effective relations with local Prevent partners, including Wakefield Local Authority and police.

The sharing of information, between professionals and local agencies, is essential for effective identification, assessment and service provision. St Joseph's has arrangements in place, which set out clearly the processes and principles for sharing information, both internally and externally.

We are aware of the potential indicating factors that a child is vulnerable to being radicalised, or exposed to extreme views, including peer pressure, influence from other people or the internet, bullying, crime and anti-social behaviour, family tensions, race/hate crime, lack of self-esteem or identity, prejudicial behaviour and personal or political grievances.

In the event of prejudicial behaviour the following system will be followed:

- All incidents or prejudicial behaviour will be reported directly to the DSLs.
- All incidents will be fully investigated and recorded in line with the Behaviour Policy and records will be kept in line with procedures for any other safeguarding incident.
- Parents/carers will be contacted and the incident discussed in detail, aiming to identify motivating factors, any changes in circumstances at home, parental views of the incident and to assess whether the incident is serious enough to warrant a further referral.
- In the event of a referral, relating to serious concerns about potential radicalisation or extremism, the school will also contact the National Counter Terrorism Security Office (NaCTSO) [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/national-counter-terrorism-security-office](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/national-counter-terrorism-security-office), who work with the Home Office. <http://content.met.police.uk/Home>
- Rachel Payling (LA Prevent Coordinator) - 01924 305352
- Gary Blezzard (LA Police Prevent Officer) - 07789 753634
- Counter Terrorism helpline - 0800 789 321

## **Links to National Guidelines/Documentation**

The following national guidelines should also be read in conjunction with this policy:

- HM Government - Prevent Strategy: Covers the duty of schools and other providers in section 29 Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015, to have due regard to the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>
- DfE - Keeping Children Safe in Education
- HM Government - Working Together to Safeguard Children

## **Links to other Policies**

This policy links to the following policies:

- Safeguarding Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Positive Behaviour Policy

- E-Safety Policy
- SMSC Policy
- British Values Statement

### **Policy Review**

This policy will be reviewed annually as part of the overall Child Protection and Safeguarding Policies.

September 2017