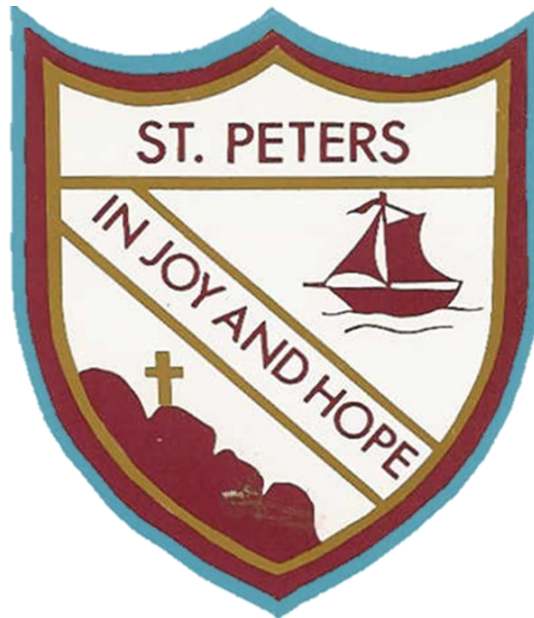


St Peters Catholic Primary School



Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation

Safeguarding Policy

2025-26

St Peter's Catholic Primary School
Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Safeguarding Policy

1. Policy Statement

St Peter's Catholic Primary School is committed to providing a secure environment for pupils, where children feel safe and are kept safe. All adults in our school recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, irrespective of their role or direct contact with children.

This policy forms one part of our overall arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in line with our statutory duties under section 175 of the Education Act 2002.

This policy aligns with the *Revised Prevent Duty Guidance: England and Wales (2023)*, issued by the Home Office. Link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance/revised-prevent-duty-guidance-england-and-wales>

2. Legal Framework

This policy has been developed with reference to:

- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Prevent Duty Guidance (current edition)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (current edition)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (current edition)
- Education Act 2002
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Equality Act 2010

When operating this policy, we use the Government's definition of extremism:

"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."

3. Aim

The aim of this policy is to:

- safeguard pupils from the risk of radicalisation and extremism;
- promote a safe, respectful and inclusive school environment;
- ensure staff understand their responsibilities under the Prevent Duty;
- promote critical thinking and resilience;
- uphold British Values alongside our Catholic ethos.

4. School Ethos

We recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials can lead to poor outcomes for children and must be addressed as a safeguarding concern. We also acknowledge that failing to challenge extremist views puts our pupils at risk.

Our school promotes a broad and balanced curriculum delivered by skilled professionals. Pupils are encouraged to value diversity, respect difference, and feel included, supported, and safe.

Our Catholic ethos teaches that every person is created in the image and likeness of God. We promote dignity, compassion, respect and inclusion, encouraging pupils to value diversity, challenge prejudice and develop as responsible citizens.

5. Recognising and Responding to Concerns

School staff will be alert to:

- Disclosures by pupils of exposure to extremist actions or materials
- Graffiti, writing, or artwork promoting extremist views
- Pupils accessing extremist content online
- Parental reports of concerning changes in behaviour
- Reports from local authorities or partner schools
- Pupils expressing extremist ideologies or narratives
- Use of hate terms or language inciting violence
- Intolerance of differences related to faith, race, gender, disability, or sexuality
- Attempts to impose extremist views or practices
- Rejection of fundamental British values
- sudden changes in behaviour
- withdrawal from friendship groups
- fixation on conspiracy theories
- repeated exposure to extremist online content
- intolerance of differing opinions
- concerning online activity

Staff will challenge such views and behaviours, using the Behaviour and Discipline Policy and the Staff Code of Conduct where appropriate.

These indicators do not automatically mean a child is being radicalised and should always be considered in context.

6. Protective Factors

The school reduces vulnerability to radicalisation through:

- a broad and balanced curriculum
- Religious Education
- PSHE
- Relationships Education
- online safety education
- promotion of British Values
- pupil voice
- positive relationships
- safeguarding culture

7. Online Safety

The school recognises that radicalisation may occur online.

Through our Online Safety curriculum we teach pupils to:

- evaluate online information critically
- recognise misinformation
- stay safe online
- know how to report concerns

8. Roles and Responsibilities

8.1. Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

- **DSL:** Louise Gorry (Deputy Headteacher)
- **Deputy DSL:** Sarah Parry (Headteacher) & Claire Smith (SBM)

The DSL is the first point of contact for safeguarding concerns and includes responsibilities under the Prevent Duty. All concerns must be reported to the DSL.

8.2 All Staff

All staff will:

- complete Prevent training
- remain vigilant to signs of radicalisation
- report concerns immediately to the DSL
- promote respectful discussion
- challenge discriminatory language
- model British Values and Gospel values

8.3 Governing Body

The Governing Body:

- Undertakes safeguarding training including Prevent
- Monitors the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements
- Reviews this policy every two years or in response to new guidance

9. Referral Procedures: Channel and Prevent

When concerns relate to radicalisation, staff must consult the DSL, who will consider referral through the **Channel** process if appropriate.

Channel is a multi-agency safeguarding programme for individuals at risk of radicalisation who have not committed a terrorism offence.

A referral may be considered when:

- A pupil is isolated or secretive
- There is evidence of extremist materials being accessed
- A child expresses ideologies aligned with extremist groups

The DSL may seek advice from:

CHANNEL CONTACTS:

- Landline: 0151 777 8328
- Mobile: 07739 822 286
- Email: special.branch@merseyside.police.uk

PREVENT CONTACTS:

- Landline: 0151 777 8311
- Email: prevent@merseyside.police.uk
- X: @merpolprevent

Referrals are made using the **Multi Agency Referral Form (MARF)**.

7. Parental Engagement

We work in partnership with parents and carers to share Prevent-related concerns where appropriate. We promote open dialogue and regularly share safeguarding and online safety information through newsletters, events, and curriculum updates.

8. Training and Awareness

- All staff receive annual safeguarding training that includes Prevent.
- Whole school and Governor safeguarding training is completed at least every three years.
- The DSL and Deputy DSL attend inter-agency training that includes Prevent and radicalisation.

9. Related Policies

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Behaviour and Discipline Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Equality and Inclusion Policy
- Online Safety Policy

10. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed every two years or earlier in response to legislation, LA guidance, or significant incidents.

Policy Review Schedule:

- **Reviewed by:** Headteacher / Governing Body
- **Date Approved:** September 2026
- **Next Review Due:** July 2028
- **Approved by:** Governing Body