‘Learning Together, Growing Together Succeeding Together’

Prevent Duty Policy

January 2025

Micklehurst All Saints CE Primary School Aims:

- To help children develop a sense of respect for themselves and others
- To ensure a secure, caring and supportive environment
- To provide an atmosphere of trust co-operation and understanding between home, school and the community
- For all children to be happy, enquiring and motivated learners
- To inspire a love for learning
- To develop Christian values
- To nurture self-respect and respect for others
- To celebrate achievement

Our Vision Statement

Our roots are firmly anchored in Christian values to enable children to grow and blossom.

'Micklehurst All Saints is committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all children, and expects our staff and volunteers to share this commitment'.

1. Statement of Intent

Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is part of the school's wider safeguarding duties. We will actively assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorism. Staff will be alert to changes in children's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Staff will use their professional judgement to identify children who may be at risk of radicalisation or those identified as being **susceptible** to being drawn into terrorism and act appropriately – which may include making a referral to the Channel programme. The school will work with the Local Children's Safeguarding Board as appropriate.

2. Definitions

Radicalisation: a process by which an individual or group comes to adopt increasingly extreme political, social, or religious ideals and aspirations that reject or undermine the status quo or reject and/or undermine contemporary ideas and expressions of freedom of choice.

Extremism: holding extreme political or religious views; fanaticism.

3. Training

The Headteacher (Miss Laura Trelfa) as designated safeguarding lead has undertaken Prevent awareness training provided by the Local Children's Safeguarding Board in order to be able to provide advice and support to other staff on how to protect children against the risk of radicalisation. The designated safeguarding lead will hold formal training sessions with all members of staff to ensure they are aware of the risk indicators and their duties regarding preventing radicalisation. Any new staff will be trained as part of induction by the designated safeguarding lead and will undertake the Prevent awareness training online.

4. Risk indicators

Indicators of an identity crisis:

- Distancing themselves from their cultural/religious heritage
- Uncomfortable with their place in society
- Changing style of dress or personal experience to accord with the group
- Conversation increasingly focussed on a particular (potentially extremist) ideology
- Possession of materials or symbols associated with an extremist cause

Indicators of a personal crisis:

- Family tensions
- A sense of isolation
- Low self-esteem
- Disassociation from existing friendship groups
- Loss of interest in activities which they previously engaged with
- Searching for answers to questions about identity, faith and belonging

Indicators of vulnerability through personal circumstances:

- Migration
- Local community tensions

- Events affecting their country or region of origin
- Alienation from UK values
- A sense of grievance triggered by personal experience of racism or discrimination

Indicators of vulnerability through unmet aspirations:

- Perceptions of injustice
- Feelings of failure
- Rejection of civic life

Other indicators:

- Using derogatory language about a particular group
- Inappropriate forms of address
- Possession of prejudice related material
- Property damage
- Refusal to cooperate with teachers/adults requests
- Condoning or supporting engagement with extremist ideologies or groups

5. Making a Judgment

When making a judgement, staff will ask themselves the following questions:

- Does the child have access to extremist influences?
- Does the child access the internet for the purposes of extremist activities (e.g. using closed network groups, accessing or distributing extremist material, contacting covertly using Skype, etc.)?
- Is there a reason to believe that the child has been, or is likely to be, involved with extremist organisations?
- Is the child known to possess or actively seek extremist literature/other media likely to incite racial or religious hatred?
- Does the child sympathise with or support illegal/illicit groups?
- Does the child support groups with links to extremist activity?
- Has the child encountered peer, social, family or faith group rejection?
- Is there evidence of extremist ideological, political or religious influence on the child?
- Have international events in areas of conflict and civil unrest had a noticeable impact on the child?
- Has there been a significant shift in the child's outward appearance that suggests a new social, political or religious influence?
- Has the child come into conflict with family over religious beliefs, lifestyle or dress choices?
- Does the child vocally support terrorist attacks; either verbally or in their written work?
- Has the child witnessed or been the victim of racial or religious hate crime?
- Is there a pattern of regular or extended travel within the UK?
- Has the child travelled for extended periods of time to international locations?
- Does the child have experience of poverty, disadvantage, discrimination or social exclusion?
- Does the child display a lack of affinity or understanding for others?
- Is the child the victim of social isolation?
- Does the child demonstrate a simplistic or flawed understanding of religion or politics?
- Is the child a foreign national, refugee or awaiting a decision on their/their family's immigration status?
- Does the child have insecure, conflicted or absent family relationships?

- Has the child experienced any trauma in their lives, particularly trauma associated with war or sectarian conflict?
- Is there evidence that a significant adult or other person in the child's life has extremist views or sympathies?

Critical indicators include where the child is:

- In contact with extremist recruiters
- Articulating support for extremist causes or leaders
- Accessing extremist websites
- Possessing 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

6. Referrals

At Micklehurst All Saints CE Primary School, we are committed to protecting our pupils from radicalisation through a process of early intervention. All staff are encouraged to raise any concerns they might have about a child with the designated and or deputy safeguarding lead. The safeguarding leads will then assess the situation and decide whether further action is required. If so, they will then discuss any concerns and decide the best course of action regarding a referral to external agencies including GMP if necessary. If a referral is made to Channel, the Channel Panel will meet to discuss the referral and determine if the individual is at risk of being drawn into terrorism and what support should be provided.

An individual will be required to provide their consent before any support delivered through the programme is provided.

Any decisions made will be made on a case-by-case basis and staff must be made aware that if they disagree with a decision not to refer, they are entitled to make a referral themselves where they harbour genuine concerns that a child is at risk.

7. Preventing Radicalisation Through Learning

In addition to a vigilant programme of awareness of risk indicators and referrals where necessary, Micklehurst All Saints CE Primary School is dedicated to protecting our pupils by engaging them in activities which help them to be more resilient to radical influences.

This policy was written in conjunction with the document https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/439598/prevent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf and will be reviewed annually.