



## St Mary's Catholic Primary School

### Prevent Policy

**Date:** November 2020

**Review Date:** Autumn 2021

**Person responsible:** Mr Sims

**Agreed by Governors:**

At St. Mary's, the Mission Statement makes clear that we aim to provide for our pupils the best possible quality of education, guided by the teachings of Christ and His Church. This is only achievable if the pupils are provided with a caring, friendly and safe environment so they can learn in a relaxed and secure environment.

#### **Introduction**

In line with guidance from the Department for Education (DfE), St Mary's has a zero tolerance acceptance of extremist behaviour and ensures that our care, guidance and curriculum empower young people to reject violent or extremist behaviour.

Whilst it remains very rare for school age children to become involved in extremist activity, young people can be exposed to extremist influences or prejudiced views, including via the internet, from an early age. Early intervention is a preferable way of tackling extremism.

#### **Definition**

Extremism can be defined as "holding of extreme opinions: the holding of extreme political or religious views or the taking of extreme actions on the basis of those views"

#### **Strategies for Preventing Extremism**

At St Mary's we aim to:-

- Raise awareness within school of the threat from extremist groups and the risks for young people
- Provide information about what can cause violent extremism, about preventative actions and where we can get additional information and advice
- Empower young people to create communities that are more resilient to extremism and protect the wellbeing of particular groups who may be vulnerable to being drawn into violent extremist activity
- Provide advice on managing risks and respond to incidents locally, nationally or internationally that might have an impact on the school community

The school will use these principles to guide our work in all areas including building on our work in:

- Promoting pupil wellbeing, equalities and community cohesion
- Building the resilience of the school, working with partners to prevent pupils becoming the victims or causes of harm
- Working with other agencies and parents to build community networks of support for the school