



## Prevent Duty

## Equal Opportunities

At Saint Christina's School we are committed to ensuring equality of education and opportunity for all pupils, staff, parents and carers receiving services from the School, irrespective of age, disability, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, pregnancy / maternity or marriage / civil partnership. We aim to develop a culture of inclusion and diversity in which all those connected with the School feel proud of their identity and able to participate fully in School life.

Saint Christina's School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. As a school, we recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation is no different from safeguarding against any other vulnerability.

All staff are expected to 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.

On 1 July 2015, the Prevent Duty (section 26) of The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 came into force. This duty places the responsibility on local authorities to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

As part of Saint Christina's School's commitment to safeguarding and child protection, we fully support the government's Prevent Strategy.

**CONTEST** is the name of the UK's Counter-Terrorism Strategy and this is split into four areas:

- Prevent: to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism;

- Pursue: to stop terrorist attacks and prosecute wherever possible;
- Protect: to strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack;
- Prepare: to mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack when it cannot be stopped.

It is the School's duty (the Prevent duty) to have due regard to the need to prevent pupils from being radicalised and/or drawn into terrorism. It recognises that during the radicalisation process it is possible to intervene to prevent vulnerable people being radicalised.

**Staff Training and Awareness** All staff at Saint Christina's School receive regular training on the *Prevent Duty*, which includes how to recognise the signs of radicalisation, understand the potential risks to pupils, and follow appropriate referral procedures. This training ensures that all staff are equipped to identify and respond to concerns about radicalisation effectively. Our staff are encouraged to be vigilant in spotting early warning signs of extremism or radicalisation, and we maintain clear, well-established procedures for staff to report concerns.

**Referral Process** In the event of any concerns about a pupil being at risk of radicalisation, staff should report them immediately to the designated safeguarding lead (DSL). The DSL will work with external agencies and local authorities to assess the risk and ensure appropriate support and intervention are provided. Saint Christina's School has established a clear and transparent referral process, in line with statutory guidance, to ensure that concerns are dealt with quickly and effectively.

## **Fundamental British Values**

Saint Christina's School is required under section 78 of the Education Act (2002) to promote the spiritual, moral, mental, and physical development of pupils. As of November 2013, schools also need to promote fundamental British values as part of the school curriculum.

Saint Christina's School is committed to serving its community. It recognises the multi-cultural, multi-faith, and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom. It also understands the vital role it has in ensuring that groups or individuals within the School are not subjected to intimidation or radicalisation by those wishing to unduly, or illegally, influence them.

It follows equal opportunities guidance, which guarantees that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political status, or similar. Saint Christina's School is dedicated to preparing pupils

for their adult life beyond the formal, examined curriculum and ensuring that it promotes and reinforces British values to all its pupils.

Pupils are expected to display knowledge of the fundamental aspects of British values. The government has outlined their expectations, stating that pupils should:

- Understand the democratic process and how citizens can have a say in decision making.
- Recognise the advantages to living under the rule of law and how law is essential for a safe society.
- See that there is a separation of power and why it exists.
- Understand the reasons for accountability of institutions and why courts maintain independence.
- Know why freedom of religion protects all faiths, as well as those with no faith.
- Accept that people who hold different religious beliefs should be tolerated and not be discriminated against.
- Value the importance of identifying and combatting extremism.

Saint Christina's School does not have to promote or teach any particular belief, view, or way of life that contradicts our outlook or ethos; however, we will not promote discrimination or accept intolerance against people or groups on the basis of their belief, opinion, or background.

**Support for Vulnerable Pupils** Saint Christina's School is committed to identifying and supporting pupils who may be vulnerable to radicalisation. In addition to safeguarding measures, we provide mentoring and pastoral care, as well as working closely with external agencies, to ensure vulnerable pupils are supported in their development. If any pupil is identified as being at risk of radicalisation, we will take appropriate steps to safeguard their welfare, which may include early intervention, support for the pupil and their family, or referral to specialist services.

**Inclusivity and Equal Opportunities** The school's equal opportunities policy guarantees that no pupil will be subject to discrimination based on disability, ethnicity, culture, national origin, national status, sex, gender, religious or non-religious affiliation, sexual orientation or gender identity, political status, or any other similar factor. Saint Christina's School remains committed to promoting an inclusive environment, where all students are treated equally and are free from extremist influences or radicalisation. We encourage an atmosphere where mutual respect for all cultures, beliefs, and backgrounds is celebrated.

Further information see Prevent duty guidance (England and Wales) 2023:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>