



Haydock English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School

'Lighting the flame for life-long learning'

(September 2025)

PREVENT POLICY

INTRODUCTION

Haydock English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School recognises that pupils can be vulnerable to extremist ideology and radicalisation, and we are committed to protecting pupils from this risk as part of our safeguarding responsibilities.

Our commitment to safeguarding pupils against extremism, radicalisation and terrorism includes interventions and collaboration with other agencies including the police and the LA where appropriate and as required.

We support and will adhere to guidance from the DfE which requires schools to actively promote fundamental British values in order to enable pupils to challenge extremist views and ensure that pupils are encouraged to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance.

This policy relates to the potential radicalisation of pupils at our school. Haydock English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School is fully aware of its responsibility under the Prevent Duty 2015 and updated guidance December 2023.

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

The Governors recognise its responsibilities to prevent and protect children from extremism, and how this fits within its duty of child protection and safeguarding.

DEFINITION

For the purpose of this policy:

Extremism - is defined as vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. This includes calling for the death of members of the armed forces. 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".

Radicalisation - is defined as the process by which an individual or group comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups. .

Terrorism - is defined as violent threats or actions designed to influence government or intimidate the public with the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause. This includes endangering or causing serious violence to a person or people, serious damage to property, and seriously interfering or disrupting an electronic system.

AIMS

- To ensure all staff understand the risks of radicalisation within our school and how this risk may change from time to time.
- To ensure staff are aware of the Prevent Strategy and are able to protect children and young people who are vulnerable or may be at risk of being radicalised.
- Whilst following the Prevent Strategy the school also maintains its mission for diversity to be a core part of all that it does. The school places a strong emphasis on the common values that all communities share such as self-respect, understanding, tolerance and the sanctity of life. Pupils are taught to respect and value diversity as well as understanding how to make safe, well-considered decisions.

STRATEGIES FOR PREVENTING EXTREMISM

Through the Haydock English Martyrs' written and unwritten curriculum the school promotes community cohesion as well as British Values.

The 'fundamental British values' are:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty and mutual respect
- Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

The Office for Security & 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

At Haydock English Martyrs' we will build on our work in :-

- Promoting good outcomes for all pupils including their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- Promoting pupil happiness, wellbeing, sense of security, 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 including the education child protection service, social care, the police, parents, and community and religious leaders to build community links and enhance positive networks.

CURRICULUM

Haydock English Martyrs' ensures its pupils are offered a broad and balanced curriculum delivered by skilled teachers that aims to prepare them for life, encouraging them to be inquisitive learners who are enriched, understand and tolerant of difference and diversity, whilst also ensuring that they thrive, feel valued and are not marginalized.

Classroom practices include:

- Developing questioning techniques to open up safe debate;
- Building confidence to promote honesty about a plurality of views;
- Ensuring freedom of expression and freedom from threat;
- Debating fundamental moral and human rights principles;
- Promoting open respectful dialogue; and
- Affirming multiple identities.

RISK ASSESSING

Haydock English Martyrs' is committed to safeguarding, is compliant with its duties including prevent, positively promotes the well-being of all its pupils and expects all staff and volunteers to share in this commitment.

USE OF ONLINE TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Haydock English Martyrs' is aware of the risk of use of social media for online radicalisation.

Haydock English Martyrs' promotes a positive and protective school ethos. The Headteacher, Deputy Head Teacher and Learning Mentor are designated personnel for Child Protection and Safeguarding including Prevent. All staff receive safeguarding training.

The school has an Acceptable Use of IT Policy and during the school day restricts access to external sites that may be unsafe and unsuitable. Twice a year pupils receive an update on how to keep themselves safe on line (once during Anti-Bullying Week in November and as part of Internet Safety Day in February). Pupils are reminded of the importance of speaking to a

trusted adult either in school or at home if they feel vulnerable or unsafe. This would include any concerns they have about images, messages or contacts online. Pupils are also taught to use the CEOPS button if they feel they are at risk. The school's computing and PSHE curriculum addresses on-line safety.

PARTNERSHIPS

Haydock English Martyrs' recognises that any attempt to counter extremism and prevent radicalisation cannot be achieved by one organisation alone but relies on the sharing of information and productive partnership working. In upholding the Prevent duty we work with a number of partners, including

- The Police and PCSO's
- The Local Authority
- Social Care
- Community and religious leaders
- Parents and the wider community
- Other Educational Organisations

BUILDING RESILIENCE

"Schools can build pupils' resilience to radicalisation by providing a safe environment for debating controversial issues and helping them to understand how they can influence and participate decision-making"
(The Prevent Duty June 2015)

Haydock English Martyrs' pupils' resilience in a number of different ways across the curriculum including through the PSHE programme of study, whole School and class assemblies, educational visits, drama workshops, debating, philosophy, and citizenship activities such as school council.

RAISING A CONCERN

If a member of the school community, a child, a member of staff or a member of the school community raises a concern that relates to the Prevent Duty e.g. a child at risk of radicalisation, or exhibiting extremist the school will take this matter seriously and will follow Safeguarding procedures.

1. Speak to the Designated Personnel for Child Protection and Safeguarding
2. Take advice as to whether a Referral Form needs to be completed/safety and Welfare Concern Form.

Whilst Haydock English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School is fully compliant in the Prevent Duty, and recognises the important role it has to play in this respect, the school will be thoughtful and proportionate in its response to ensure that no individual or group feels needlessly disenfranchised or unfairly discriminated.