



PREVENT STATEMENT

SEPTEMBER 2026

HEADTEACHER: MR K RONDEAU

LOVING, GROWING and SUCCEEDING TOGETHER

Prevent Duty – Preventing Radicalisation

At St Mark's C of E Primary School, safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. We recognise that we have an important role in protecting children from all forms of harm, including the risk of being drawn into terrorism or being influenced by extremist views.

Building resilience, promoting equality and mutual respect, and helping children to understand and participate positively in the society in which they live are important parts of our approach. Through our Christian vision, Loving, Growing and Succeeding Together, our values, curriculum, collective worship and wider pastoral provision, we help children to develop the confidence, knowledge and critical thinking skills they need to make positive choices and challenge prejudice, discrimination and harmful views.

We aim to provide a safe and inclusive environment in which children can ask questions, express their views and explore sensitive issues in an age-appropriate and respectful way. We recognise that children may encounter harmful or extremist content through the internet, social media, peers or other sources, and we teach children how to recognise when something is unsafe, challenge inappropriate views and seek help from a trusted adult.

Our Prevent Duty

The Prevent duty forms part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities. Under Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, schools are required, in the exercise of their functions, to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

St Mark's takes this responsibility seriously. Our approach reflects the statutory Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales (2023) and is incorporated into our wider safeguarding arrangements.

Our Prevent arrangements include:

- assessing the risk of children being drawn into terrorism;
- working with relevant local and national safeguarding partners where appropriate;
- ensuring that staff have appropriate knowledge and training to recognise and respond to concerns;
- maintaining effective online safety, filtering and monitoring arrangements;
- providing an inclusive curriculum and school culture which promotes resilience, mutual respect, democracy, individual liberty and the rule of law; and
- ensuring that children have trusted adults to whom they can speak if something worries them.

We recognise that vulnerability to radicalisation can arise for a range of reasons and that there is no single profile or set of indicators. Staff therefore consider Prevent concerns alongside other safeguarding information and the individual circumstances of the child.

What we do if there is a concern?

If a member of staff has a concern that a child may be vulnerable to radicalisation or may have been exposed to extremist or terrorist ideology, they will follow the school's normal safeguarding procedures and report the concern to the **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) / Prevent Lead**.

The DSL will consider the concern alongside other relevant information and, where appropriate, seek advice from the relevant safeguarding or Prevent professionals. This may include working with children's social care, the police or other appropriate agencies.

Where a child may be susceptible to radicalisation, the school may make a referral through the appropriate local Prevent/Channel arrangements. Channel is a voluntary, multi-agency process which provides early support to people who may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. A referral does not mean that a child has committed an offence or that they will automatically enter the Channel process.

All concerns will be handled in accordance with the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, information-sharing requirements and the principle that the welfare of the child is paramount.

If there is an immediate risk of harm, a crime in progress or an immediate threat to life, the emergency services will be contacted by calling 999.

For non-emergency concerns, staff may contact the police through 101 or seek advice through the school's established safeguarding and Prevent referral arrangements.

Further information about the Prevent duty and the national Prevent strategy is available through the UK Government's Prevent guidance.