



St George's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Prevent Policy

1. Policy Statement

St George's Catholic Voluntary Academy is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all pupils. Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities, in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2025 and the Prevent Duty.

Our approach is rooted in our Catholic ethos, recognising the dignity of every person and promoting respect, tolerance, and the common good. We aim to develop pupils who are resilient, thoughtful and able to engage critically with the world around them.

2. Current Risks and Context

Leaders recognise that the risk landscape is evolving. Current risks include:

- Online radicalisation through social media, gaming and algorithms
- Exposure to extremist narratives, including far-right and religious extremism
- Misogyny and 'manosphere' content influencing attitudes and behaviours
- AI-generated content which can distort reality and spread harmful ideologies

As a Derby City school, we work closely with local safeguarding partners and remain responsive to emerging local and national risks.

3. Aims

- To safeguard pupils from radicalisation and extremism
- To ensure all staff understand and fulfil the Prevent Duty
- To promote British values and critical thinking
- To ensure effective identification, intervention and referral processes

4. Roles and Responsibilities

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) has strategic responsibility for Prevent, including referrals to Channel.

Governors provide oversight and ensure compliance with statutory duties.

All staff:

- Are alert to signs of radicalisation
- Report concerns immediately
- Create a safe, inclusive environment
- Model respectful behaviours

5. Training

All staff receive safeguarding training (annually and weekly during staff briefings) which includes Prevent. This is updated regularly.

Training includes:

- Recognising signs of radicalisation
- Understanding online risks, including AI and algorithms
- Awareness of local and national trends

The DSL undertakes advanced Prevent and Channel training.

6. Curriculum

The curriculum plays a central role in prevention.

Through RE, RSHE, PSHE and wider curriculum:

- British values are promoted
- Pupils learn about different faiths and cultures
- Critical thinking and respectful debate are developed

RSHE explicitly teaches:

- Online safety and misinformation
- Influence and manipulation
- Healthy relationships and respect

7. Online Safety

The school ensures robust filtering and monitoring systems are in place and reviewed annually.

Pupils are taught:

- How to stay safe online
- How extremist content can be encountered

- How algorithms influence thinking

Parents are supported through communication and guidance.

8. Identification and Referral

All concerns are reported through safeguarding systems.

The DSL will:

- Assess risk
- Seek advice where needed
- Refer to Channel or police where appropriate

Decisions are recorded clearly, including rationale for action taken.

9. Working with Parents and Pupils

The school works in partnership with parents wherever possible.

However, there may be circumstances where it is not appropriate to inform parents if doing so could increase risk.

Similarly, pupils are not routinely questioned about concerns unless they make a disclosure. This ensures that children are not placed at further risk or distress.

10. Monitoring and Review

The effectiveness of Prevent arrangements is monitored through:

- Safeguarding audits (including Section 157)
- Governor oversight
- DSL review of incidents and trends

This policy is reviewed annually or sooner if required.

Next review date: April 2027