SPRINGHILL CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

We strive to achieve excellence in all that we do as we follow the Gospel values of Jesus Christ.

Together we will do our best for Jesus

THE PREVENT DUTY

(This forms part of our Safeguarding Policy)

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment

Adopted by the Governing Body: 21st September 2026
Review Date: September 2027

To protect and safeguard young children and families deemed at risk of radicalisation with the intent to prevent from being drawn into terrorism.

From 1 July 2015 all schools, registered early years childcare providers and registered later years childcare providers are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, in the exercise of their functions to have 'due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism'. This Duty is known as 'Prevent duty'

Here at Springhill we take Safeguarding very seriously, therefore to ensure that we adhere to and achieve the prevent duty we will:
Have a designated person: **The Prevent Duty Lead – Mrs Ashworth**

Staff Responsibilities

- All practitioners must be able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation. Training will be provided.
- There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to a terrorist ideology, but staff should be alert to changes in children's behaviour, including even very young children, which could indicate they may need help or protection.
- These behaviours can be evident during circle time, role play activities and quiet time. Quiet times are a good time for children to make disclosures as this is a period that children are closest to their key persons. The key person approach means we already know our key children and families well and so we will quickly notice any changes in behaviour, demeanour or personality.
- People from all walks of life can be drawn into radicalisation and not necessarily from a particular religion or ethnicity. Terrorism is not promoted by any religion.
- The Prevent duty does not require the school to carry out unnecessary intrusion into the family life but will take action when we observe behaviour of concern.
- People's dress codes like hijabs, niqabs, abayas and jilbabs are not indicative factors that they are at risk of being radicalised.

What to look for

Signs that a pupil is being radicalised can include:

- Becoming increasingly argumentative
- Refusal to engage with, or becoming abusive to, peers who are different to themselves
- Becoming susceptible to conspiracy theories and feelings of persecution
- Changes in friendship groups and appearance
- No longer doing things they used to enjoy
- Converting to a new religion
- Isolating themselves from family and friends
- Talking as if from a scripted speech
- An unwillingness or inability to discuss their views, or refusing to listen to different points of view
- A sudden disrespectful attitude towards others
- Increased levels of anger or secretiveness, especially around internet use
- Expressions of sympathy for extremist ideologies and groups, or justification of their actions
- Accessing extremist material online
- Spending a lot more time online or on the phone

- Being in contact with extremist recruiters and joining, or seeking to join, extremist organisations

What to do if you suspect that a child is at risk of radicalisation.

- Follow the settings normal Safeguarding Procedures including discussing with the safeguarding lead and where deemed necessary, with the children's social care. In prevent priority areas, the local authority will have a Prevent lead who can also provide support.

- The Safeguarding Lead can also contact the local police or dial 101 (non-emergency number) or report anything terrorism related by calling the anti-terrorism hot line (0800 789 321). They will then talk in confidence about the concerns and help to access support and advice. If you feel anyone is in **immediate** danger call 999.

- The Department for Education has dedicated a telephone helpline (020 7340 7264) to enable staff to raise concerns relating to extremism directly. Concerns can also be raised by email to: counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk. Please note that the helpline is not intended for use in emergency situations, such as a child being at immediate risk of harm or a security incident, which cases the normal emergency procedures, should be followed.

The Prevent lead will update the Prevent Risk Assessment at least annually.