



Anti-Radicalisation Policy – Maranatha Christian School

Staff Responsible / Author	Tom Price
Head Approved	Tom Price
Trustee Approved	Lara Morava

Version	Date	Head Review	Trustee Review	Status	Next Review
V1.0	Nov 15	Nov 15	Nov 15	Approved	Nov 16
V2.0	Nov 16	Nov 16	Nov 16	Approved	Nov 17
V3.0	Oct 17	Oct 17	Oct 17	Approved	Oct 18
V4.0	Oct 18	Oct 18	Oct 18	Approved	Oct 19
V5.0	Oct 19	Oct 19	Oct 19	Approved	Oct 20
V6.0	August 2020	August 2020	August 2020	Approved	August 2021
V7.0	April 2021	April 2021	April 2021	Approved	April 2022
V8.0	March 2022	March 2022	March 2022	Approved	March 2023
V9.0	February 23	February 23	February 23	Approved	February 24

1. Introduction

We are committed to providing an environment in which our students feel secure and are kept safe. Safeguarding is a responsibility that management, staff and parents share, in recognition of the commission God has given us to care for the young lives in our charge. An important part of this challenge is providing our students with input from a range of cultural experiences, while at the same time ensuring that those experiences are wholesome ones, and specifically that they do not in any way suggest an undermining of fundamental British values and/or allow access to any influences that might tend to extremism or radicalisation.

This Anti-Radicalisation Policy is one element within our overall school arrangements to protect and promote the welfare of all children in line with our statutory duties as set out in the *Education Act 2002* and subsequent Safeguarding regulations and guidance in *Keeping Children Safe in Education September 2022* and the *Prevent* directives as part of the Government's *Contest* anti-terrorist initiative.

The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act, which came into force on 1 July 2015, requires certain authorities, including schools, to 'have due regard to the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism'. This is known as the 'Prevent duty'.



This policy is formulated in light of, and links closely to our School's *Child Protection and Safeguarding* and *Promoting British Values* policies.

2. School Ethos and Practice

As a school founded on and committed to Christian values, we encourage and expect our students to show respect for others regardless of their world-view or cultural background. It is a central outworking of our faith that we should care for those around us whatever their position and put their interests ahead of our own; it is always our aim that our students will develop an awareness of the needs of others and a readiness to move to meet those needs, both while they are with us in school, and then as later in life they move out into the wider world.

The Government defines extremism as:

Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs; and/or calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas.

Views such as these are antithetical to everything our school and the Christian faith stand for, and as such, should they be detected in any way in our environment, would be addressed with the utmost alacrity and seriousness. We are aware that young people can be exposed to negative influences from a variety of sources, with the technology of social networking and the internet a particularly pervasive and unregulated challenge; any evidence of prejudice, discrimination or extremist views on the part of students (or staff) will be addressed immediately, in line with our Child Protection and Safeguarding and Discipline policies.

There is no place for extremist views of any kind in our school, whether from internal sources — students, staff or trustees, or external sources - school community, external agencies or individuals. Our students see our school as a safe place where they can explore controversial issues safely and where our teachers encourage and facilitate this — we have a duty to ensure this happens.

Therefore, in our school we will provide a broad and balanced curriculum, through which our students learn to appreciate the value of difference and diversity and also to ensure that they thrive, feel valued and not marginalized.

We are aware that young people can be exposed to extremist influences or prejudiced views from an early age which reach them from a variety of sources and media, including via the internet, and at times students may themselves reflect or display views that may be discriminatory, prejudiced or extremist, including using derogatory language.



Any prejudice, discrimination or extremist views, displayed by students or staff will always be challenged and dealt with as appropriate and in line with our Behaviour and Discipline Policies.

As part of wider safeguarding responsibilities school staff will be alert to:

- Disclosures by students of their exposure to the extremist actions, views or materials of others outside of school, such as in their homes or community groups, especially where students have not actively sought these out;
- Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images;
- Students accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites;
- Parental reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance;
- Students voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives;
- Use of extremist or 'hate' terms to exclude others or incite violence;
- Intolerance of difference, whether secular or religious or, in line with our equalities policy, views based on, but not exclusive to, gender, disability, homophobia, race, colour or culture;
- Attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others;
- Anti-western or Anti-British views.

Our school will closely follow any locally agreed procedure as set out by the Local Safeguarding Children Board's agreed processes and criteria for safeguarding individuals vulnerable to extremism and radicalisation.

At Maranatha Christian School we have determined British Values to be:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs

As a school we aim to develop and nurture these by:

- Delivering a positive, engaging morning assembly programme with core ethical values and beliefs at its heart
- A well-structured Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship education programme which addresses all of the requirements of the programmes of study (looking at Democracy, Freedom, the rule of law, Human Rights and responsibilities)
- A broad and balanced curriculum which addresses many of these core values across a range of subject areas
- Having a clearly communicated and consistently applied Behaviour Policy so that

Maranatha Christian School, Queenlaines Farm, Sevenhampton SN6 7SQ Telephone: 01793 762075

Proprietor: New Maranatha Christian School Trust,

Registered Charity Number: 1092273



students understand what is expected of them and the consequences of both meeting and failing to meet these expectations

- A Code of Conduct which is regularly referred to and communicated with students, reiterating that we are a school community built on mutual respect and understanding
- Helping students address issues in themselves and between themselves and others in a manner which will lead to personal character development and better relationships.

3. Teaching Approach

We will ensure that all of our teaching approaches help our students build resilience to extremism and give students a positive sense of identity through the development of critical thinking skills. We will ensure that all of our staff are equipped to recognise extremism and are skilled and confident enough to challenge it.

This approach will be embedded within the ethos of our school so that students know and understand what safe and acceptable behaviour is in the context of extremism and radicalisation. This will work in conjunction with our school's approach to the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development of students and will include the sound use of assemblies to help further promote this rounded development of our students.

Our goal is to build mutual respect and understanding and to promote the use of dialogue, not violence, as a form of conflict resolution. We will achieve this by using a curriculum that includes:

- Citizenship programmes;
- Open discussion and debate;
- Work on anti-violence and a restorative approach addressed throughout curriculum and in helping students face such issues in their lives;

At MCS we will promote the values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs. We will teach and encourage students to respect one another and to respect and tolerate difference, especially those of a different faith or no faith. It is indeed our most fundamental responsibility to keep our students safe and prepare them for life in modern multi-cultural Britain and globally.

4. Use of External Agencies and Speakers

At MCS we encourage the use of external agencies or speakers to enrich the experiences of our students; however, we will positively vet those external agencies, individuals or speakers who we engage to provide such learning opportunities or experiences for our students.

We will assess the suitability and effectiveness of input from external agencies or

Maranatha Christian School, Queenlaines Farm, Sevenhampton SN6 7SQ Telephone: 01793 762075

Proprietor: New Maranatha Christian School Trust,

Registered Charity Number: 1092273



individuals to ensure that:

- Any messages communicated to students are consistent with the ethos of the school and do not marginalise any communities, groups or individuals;
- Any messages do not seek to glorify criminal activity or violent extremism or seek to radicalise students through extreme or narrow views of faith, religion or culture or other ideologies;
- Activities match the needs of students;
- Activities are carefully evaluated by schools to ensure that they are effective.

We recognise, however, that the ethos of our school is to encourage students to understand opposing views and ideologies, appropriate to their age, understanding and abilities, and to be able to actively engage with them in informed debate, and we may use external agencies or speakers to facilitate and support this.

Therefore, by delivering a broad and balanced curriculum and enrichment programme augmented by the use of external sources where appropriate, we will strive to ensure our students recognise risk and build resilience to manage any such risk themselves where appropriate to their age and ability but also to help students develop the critical thinking skills needed to engage in informed debate.

5. Whistle Blowing

Where there are concerns of extremism or radicalisation, students, staff and trustees will be encouraged to make use of our internal systems to Whistle Blow or raise any issue in confidence. They must inform the Headteacher straight away (or if it relates to the Headteacher inform the Chair of Trustees).

6. Safeguarding

Please refer to our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy for the full procedural framework on our Safeguarding and Child Protection duties.

All adults working in MCS are required to report instances where they believe a child may be at risk of harm or neglect to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

7. Role of Governing Body

The Governing Body of our School, the Trustees, will undertake appropriate training to ensure that they are clear about their role and the parameters of their responsibilities as Trustees, including their statutory safeguarding duties. The Governing Body of our school will support the ethos and values of our school and will support the school in tackling extremism and radicalisation.

In line with the provisions set out in the DfE guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (Sept 22), the governing body will challenge the school's senior management team on the delivery of this policy and monitor its effectiveness.

8. Review

Maranatha Christian School, Queenlaines Farm, Sevenhampton SN6 7SQ Telephone: 01793 762075
Proprietor: New Maranatha Christian School Trust,
Registered Charity Number: 1092273



The Trustees will review this policy annually.

9. The Prevent Duty

For full details of The Prevent Duty – Departmental advice for schools and childcare providers June 2015 go to

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/439598/prevent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf



Appendix 1: 'Key Ingredients' for successful teaching in the context of 'push' and 'pull' factors

<p>PUSH FACTORS – factors that push an individual/make an individual vulnerable to extremist messages</p> <p>Lack of excitement, frustration</p> <p>Lack of sense of achievement – seen as significant 'lack of purpose'// confidence in the future, life goals</p> <p>Lack of an outlet for views</p> <p>Gaps in knowledge or understanding of Islam – both young people and their parents</p> <p>Sense of injustice</p> <p>Actual or perceived humiliating experiences (including bullying, racial discrimination as well as perceived humiliating experiences. Perhaps linked closely/to sense of injustice)</p> <p>Exclusion – lack of belonging to peer or community networks, associations etc</p> <p>Below the line: factors that are out of scope of this study</p>	<p>KEY INGREDIENTS</p> <p>Teacher confidence in many cases it will be the use of existing teaching skills and methods which may well be the most effective approach. From prison settings, staff who are more confident in their abilities tend to perform much better even though they have not received specialist training</p> <p>Teacher attitudes and behaviours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Willingness to admit you don't know - Acknowledging controversial issues exist - Awareness that I have a role to play - Willingness to turn to others for help when you don't know about something <p>Specific knowledge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understanding other cultures and religions as well as alternative values and beliefs (whilst being careful to avoid 'othering') - Knowledge of an alternative values framework <p>Teaching practice/pedagogy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Boosting critical thinking (seeing through propaganda, singular messages etc) - Helping to see multiple perspectives - Using multiple resources/methods - Embedding or sustaining dialogue following specialist interventions - Enabling students to tackle difficult issues - Linking school work to the wider community - Drawing evidence from across the curriculum - Developing in young people a sense of multiple identities. Help young people become aware of, and comfortable with, multiple personal identity 	<p>PULL FACTORS – factors that draw young people into extremist messages</p> <p>Charismatic/confident individuals (recruiters)</p> <p>Network/sense of belonging</p> <p>Broader community views which enable or do not oppose extremism.</p> <p>Persuasive, clear messages. Exploiting knowledge gaps.</p>
<p>Disaffection with wider societal issues Disruptive home life</p>	<p>Other factors Support from senior leaders Pupil support processes</p>	<p>Sense of dignity and importance and loyalty Exciting (non-teaching) activities Sense of purpose in life</p>

Maranatha Christian School, Queenlaines Farm, Sevenhampton SN6 7SQ Telephone: 01793 762075

Proprietor: New Maranatha Christian School Trust,

Registered Charity Number: 1092273