

# Statement on Preventing Radicalisation

St Luke's School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. As a school we recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation is no different from safeguarding against any other vulnerability.

All staff are expected to uphold and promote the fundamental principles of British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. In formulating this statement the Governing Body have taken account of the guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) who have called for all public bodies to make explicit their preventative measures to minimise the threat of extremism in their setting.

In the context of recent national and international events arising from the radicalisation of individuals and their subsequent involvement in extremist or terrorist activity, schools now have a statutory duty to be aware of and ready to respond to any signs that individuals are vulnerable to radicalisation or being influenced towards supporting terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism.

**Radicalisation** refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism.

**Extremism** is defined in the *Prevent* strategy as vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values.

The school is committed to working with others to prevent vulnerable people, including children, being drawn into terrorism or activity in support of terrorism. It does this through:

## **School culture**

The school promotes the spiritual, moral and cultural development of its pupils. This includes the encouragement and exercise of free speech, and the articulation and discussion of opinions. But with rights come responsibilities. If a pupil were to express discriminatory or extremist opinions or behaviours, these would be challenged as a matter of course. Mutual respect is central to the ethos of the school, and is modelled by pupils and staff alike. The school promotes respect for others in the classroom and in all other activities. Pupils are encouraged to explore ideas and develop opinions, always understanding that disagreement does not entail loss of respect for and understanding of others' opinions.

There is no place at the school for the promotion of partisan political views.