

Anti-Terrorism Policy

Accepted and signed on:

Chairman: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____



CHURCH DETAILS

Name: South African Congregation - London (hereafter, "The Church")

Email address: info@sagemeente.com

Denomination/Organisation
Inter denominational

All the South African Congregation policies are underpinned by the Mission Statement or understanding of their calling as church:

To be a spiritual home for world travellers

(’n Geestelike tuiste vir wêreldreisigers)

ORGANISATION

The membership of the congregation is made up of mostly Afrikaans-speaking Christians, who believes in the redemption work of God through Jesus Christ and the work of the Holy Spirit, people who live their lives according to Gods Word as contained in the Bible. The congregation’s affairs are administered by the Executive Committee. And the congregation is registered as a charity in the UK - number 1041617.

CHURCH SERVICES

SA Congregation has a number of church services throughout the UK. Worship services are held at the following service points:

- **Birmingham**
- **Edinburgh**
- **Guildford**
- **London**
- **Loughton**
- **Maidstone**

Sunday school

During school terms Sunday School is offered at all our services.



Statement of Intent

The South African Congregation deplores terrorism of every kind and of any radical ideology. We will do anything we can to protect our congregation from the threat of terrorism and we will not tolerate extremism in our church.

Our zero tolerance approach to extremism and terrorism includes interventions, exclusions and involving third parties such as the police.

We support and adhere to the latest guidance from the Government which requires schools and churches to actively promote fundamental British values and to ensure that pupils are encouraged to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance.

This policy relates to the radicalisation of members of the South African Congregation.

For guidance on specific terrorist incidents, please follow the Evacuation Policy and procedures at each service point.

This policy is intended to be followed by all the service points.

1. Definitions

1.1. Extremism – is defined as the holding of extreme political or religious views.

1.2. Radicalisation – is defined as the process by which an individual or group comes to adopt increasingly extreme political, social, or religious ideals and aspirations.

1.3. Fundamental British values – are a set of expected standards by which people resident in the United Kingdom must live.

2. Safeguarding from extremism

2.1. We protect the right to freedom of expression. This policy is not intended or designed to restrict or prevent legitimate and lawful congregation or debate.

2.2. We have a dedicated anti-terrorism safeguarding officer who deals with any incidents of extremism and or terrorism within our church community.

2.3. As is our responsibility under law, we will do our utmost to safeguard our congregation from being drawn into extremism and terrorism.

2.4. We adhere to safeguarding rules and will not hesitate to involve the police at the earliest opportunity if safeguarding issues arise.

2.5. We encourage any member of the congregation, pupil, parent, staff member or member of the wider church community to let our ministers know if they have concerns about:

- Any member of the congregation especially Sunday School pupils becoming radicalised.
- Groups, clubs or societies with extremist or radical views.
- Friends and/or families of congregation members and Sunday school pupils becoming radicalised or involved in extremism.
- Any member of the congregation planning to visit known areas of conflict.
- Members of the church and wider community attempting to draw young and/or vulnerable Sunday school pupils into extremism.

2.6. Visitors and speakers coming into the Church will be vetted prior to them having access to Sunday school pupils, and all materials handed out to the congregation and pupils will be checked by the Committee.

2.7. “Channel”, a key element of the Home Office’s “Prevent” strategy, is a multi-agency approach to protect people at risk from radicalisation.

2.8. As a church we will work with the local authority, local law enforcement, and religious and community leaders, to identify children vulnerable to radicalisation and to stamp out extremism if it arises.

This includes identifying anyone in the congregation:

- Displaying feelings of grievance and injustice
- Feeling under threat
- Searching for identity, meaning and belonging
- Who have a desire for status amongst their peers
- Who have a desire for excitement and adventure
- Displaying a need to dominate and control others

- Who have a susceptibility to indoctrination
- Displaying a radical desire for political or moral change
- Who are susceptible to opportunistic involvement
- Who have family or friends involved in extremism
- Susceptible to being influenced or controlled by a group
- With relevant mental health issues

3. Preventing radicalisation

- 3.1. We will always take allegations and concerns of radicalisation and/or terrorism seriously.
- 3.2. We will help pupils channel their desire for excitement and adventure into suitable and healthy activities.
- 3.3. Extremist propaganda is widely available online. The poisonous messages of extremists and fundamentalists will never be allowed to drown out the voices of the moderate majority.
- 3.4. We will work with local religious and cultural organisations to instil a strong sense of identity in our congregation and pupils, as well as a clear place and purpose within the church.
- 3.5. We will monitor all internet activity that takes place on site, and on any church computers, laptops and tablets off site, and establish appropriate filters to protect children from terrorist and extremist material online.
- 3.6. Our church is stronger thanks to our open, multi-racial and welcoming ethos. We will always aim to integrate and engage every churchgoer within the church community, and in the wider community.
- 3.7. We will monitor and assess incidents which suggest members of the congregation and Sunday school pupils are engaging, or are at risk of engaging in extremist activity and/or radicalisation.
- 3.8. Where a pupil has been identified as at risk of radicalisation, our church will take action proportionate to the incident/risk.

4. Community links

- 4.1. We will engage in annual community round-table discussions with local community and religious leaders, and local law enforcement.
- 4.2. We will include discussion about extremism and terrorism in our Committee Body

meetings.

- 4.3. We will operate an open door policy for community members to report concerns.
- 4.4. We will open our doors to the community for festivals, religious and other events.
- 4.5. We will select a range of charities to support across the year which represent our church community, including local community groups.

5. Promoting fundamental British values

Through our social, moral, spiritual and cultural obligation, we will:

- Enable the congregation to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence.
- Enable the congregation to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England.
- Encourage the congregation to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the church and to society more widely.
- Enable the congregation to acquire a broad general knowledge of, and respect for, public institutions and services in England.
- Further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling the congregation to acquire an appreciation of, and respect for, their own and other cultures.
- Encourage respect for other people.
- Encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.