

Witchampton C of E First School Prevent Policy

Risk Assessment and Action Plan

'Live a Life of Love Just as Jesus Loved Us' Ephesians 5

The policy is written with due regard to the following:

Prevent Duty Guidance: for England and Wales (2023) (Prevent), Keeping Children Safe in Education (September 2023) (KCSIE), Channel Duty Guidance (2020) (Channel)

What is Prevent?

Prevent is part of the UK's counter terrorism strategy preventing people from becoming radicalised, involved in terrorism or supporting terrorism. It is the only aspect of the counter-terrorism strategy that operates before a crime has been committed. Prevent aims to identify children, young people and families at risk and to assess and reduce that risk. It includes non-terrorist forms of radicalisation including a range of extremist beliefs. It is part of the safeguarding agenda and links to our understanding of respecting and upholding British Values.

What is the Prevent duty?

The Prevent duty requires all education providers 'to help prevent the risk of people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism'. This includes safeguarding learners from extremist ideologies and radicalisation. Most importantly, providers should consider the needs of children, young people and adult learners at each stage of the safeguarding process. Providers should consider radicalisation concerns in line with their existing safeguarding processes, skills and experience. This duty is known as the Prevent duty.' Witchampton C of E

First School recognises its duty to implement procedures to fulfil its duties under Prevent. Prevent is part of the school's wider responsibility for Safeguarding and Child Protection. The Headteacher is the designated Safeguarding Lead and, as such, the person responsible for implementing the Prevent duty.

These duties are:

1. Risk Assessment – see Risk Assessment at Appendix 2.

- Assess the general level of risk, depending on geographical area or intake, of pupils being subject to radicalisation or drawn into terrorism/extremist activity.
- Put in place means to identify individual children who may be at risk of radicalisation or being drawn into terrorism/extremist activity.

2. Policies and Procedures

- Update safeguarding policies and procedures to identify children at risk of radicalisation and protect them. Such policies to include:
 - indicators of vulnerability (Channel Duty Guidance Annex C);
 - when it is appropriate to make a referral, whether to Children's Services in the normal way or to make a referral to the Channel programme;
 - protocols to ensure that visiting speakers, whether invited by staff or pupils, are suitably supervised;
 - procedures when a child goes missing;
 - a single point of contact to oversee and coordinate the school's implementation of the Prevent duty.

3. Training

- Provide training to staff on the Prevent duty. *See Appendix 1 for general information given to staff.*
- The DSL and Deputy DSLs have all undertaken the online Prevent training (<https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/>) in order to advise and train staff.

4. Building Resilience to Radicalisation

- In part through the existing duty to promote fundamental British values.

- In part through the Life and Culture (PSHE) curriculum teaching pupils to manage risk, resist pressure, make safer choices and seek help if necessary. 'HeartSmart and NSPCC resources are used to support this.
- In part through the citizenship, religious education and other relevant subject syllabus with focus on democracy, diversity, mutual respect and managing debate of political issues in a non-partisan manner.

5. IT Policies and Training

- Ensure that children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in school.
- Check filters and revise ICT acceptable use policies.
- Equip (ie training) children to stay safe online, both in school and outside of school.
- Ensure teaching staff are aware of the risks posed by online activity of extremist and terrorist groups.

6. Working in Partnership

- Liaise with LCSB to establish what advice and support they can provide and for their assessment of general levels of risk within the local area.

The following links are to the above guidance:

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

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/channel-guidance>

Appendix 1 – Guidance to Staff on Prevent Duty

What is Prevent?

Prevent is part of the UK's counter terrorism strategy preventing people from becoming radicalised, involved in terrorism or supporting terrorism. It is the only aspect of the counter-terrorism strategy that operates before a crime has been committed. Prevent aims to identify children, young people and families at risk and to assess and reduce that risk. It includes non-terrorist forms of radicalisation including a range of extremist beliefs. It is part of the safeguarding agenda and links to our understanding of respecting and upholding British Values.

What is the Prevent duty?

The Prevent duty requires all education providers 'to help prevent the risk of people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism'. This includes safeguarding learners from extremist ideologies and radicalisation. Most importantly, providers should consider the needs of children, young people and adult learners at each stage of the safeguarding process. Providers should consider radicalisation concerns in line with their existing safeguarding processes, skills and experience. This duty is known as the Prevent duty.' Witchampton C of E First School recognises its duty to implement procedures to fulfil its duties under Prevent. Prevent is part of the school's wider responsibility for Safeguarding and Child Protection. The Headteacher is the designated Safeguarding Lead and, as such, the person responsible for implementing the Prevent duty.

Behavioural indicators

The following are possible signs that someone is being radicalised or drawn into terrorism:

- Change in behaviour or appearance;
- Adopting styles of clothes associated with groups with whom they have had no previous contact;
- Becoming isolated from friends, peers or family members;
- Becoming involved with groups of pupils who have strong ideologies;
- Viewing websites which contain extremist ideologies or symbols;
- Attempting to recruit others to an extremist ideology or cause;
- Vocalising extremist ideologies or using extreme language;
- Questioning identity and sense of belonging;
- Glorifying current terrorist activity seen in the media;
- Displaying extreme behaviour related to ideology and/or religion;
- Requesting extended holidays to unsafe places or places not associated with the family;
- Possessing or discussing extremist material; and
- Family not being aware of absence.

Motivators for such behaviours could be wide ranging. Terrorism is very unlikely but not impossible. Whatever the reason for a pupil's behaviour, remember that young people can be vulnerable and will benefit from our support. Please remember that the most important thing is to **do** something.

What do you do if you have a concern?

- Record your concern on 'My Concern'.
- At Witchampton C of E First School the Designated Safeguarding Lead is Jo Hancock. The Deputy DSL is Rebecca Hancock. Jo Hancock is also the Prevent Lead.
- The concerns may result in a referral to the Children's Advice and Duty Service (CHAD) who will carry out a risk-assessment and the pass the concern onto the **Channel** Programme if they deem it to meet the required threshold. Channel is a programme which focuses on providing appropriate support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism.
- Remember that anyone can make a referral, but in the majority of cases staff would consult with the DSL in the first instance.

Appendix 2 - “Prevent” Risk Assessment and Action Plan

Witchampton C of E First School school recognises that it has a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act, 2015, in the exercise of its functions, to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

Duty	What this means	Action	By whom
Risk assessment			
Assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorism	Staff can demonstrate a general understanding of the risks affecting children and young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All staff have read “Keeping Children Safe in Education”, September 2022. ● The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) has informed staff of their duties as set out in “The Prevent Duty – Departmental advice for Schools and childcare providers” (DfE June 2015) <p>All staff should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● know that Dorset is NOT judged by the government to be a high priority area for Prevent activities, however, we are no different to any other part of the UK for the threats we face. ● Know that radicalisation can take place online so awareness of internet safety is an issue for all communities. ● Be aware of ‘Dawah’ (invitation or preaching of Islam in order to convert) which has caused issues nationally. This is not thought to be an issue in Dorset yet but staff should be vigilant for the signs. ● Know that Dorset has a small but growing Muslim community and it is primarily from these communities that Daesh and other 	<p>All staff</p> <p>DSL</p>

		<p>Islamic extremist groups seek to recruit supporters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Be aware that Bournemouth has communities from Libya, Syria and Iraq which may have been affected by conflict in this region ● Be aware of local far right wing extremists (both Bournemouth and Weymouth have seen EDL activity over the past few years). In rural Dorset, issues such as badger culling and possible fracking sites and the potential for the return of fox hunting could be a catalyst for other forms of extremism. ● Know that membership of local far-right wing groups such as Wessex Resistance tends to fluctuate with new groups emerging as others become less active. ● Be aware that hate crimes and incidents directed at our Muslim community see a spike whenever there are Islamic incidents ● Be assured that all FE and HE colleges and university within Dorset are actively engaged with Prevent work and are monitored regularly. 	
	Staff can identify individual children who may be at risk of radicalisation and how to support them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The DSL has informed staff about signs and indicators of radicalisation including those from extreme right wing organisations. Local risks are known. 	DSL
	There is a clear procedure in place for protecting children at risk of radicalisation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All staff understand how to record and report concerns regarding risk of radicalisation. ● Prevent training takes place on joining the school and bi annually thereafter. ● DSLs to be aware of the work by the Pan-Dorset Prevent Board 	All staff

	The school has identified a DSL, who takes overall responsibility for Prevent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff know who the DSL is and that this person acts as a source of advice and support. 	All staff
Assess the risk of the locality	Checking for extremism in the immediate locality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Headteacher meet police to identify current extremist individuals or groups in the local area. 	Headteacher
Prohibit extremist speakers and events in the school	The school exercises “due diligence” in relation to requests from external speakers and organisations using school premises.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All visiting speakers to have a nominated point of contact at the school (the Organiser) Conducting research on the person/organisation to establish whether they have demonstrated extreme views/actions. Refusal to allow people/organisations to use school premises if they have links to extreme groups or movements. Justification of the school’s decision will be provided to the person/organisation in writing. Visitors to provide photo ID upon arrival at School. Ensuring visiting speakers are accompanied at all times and are not left unsupervised with pupils at any point. 	DSL
Working in Partnership			
The school is using existing local partnership arrangements in exercising its Prevent duty.	Staff record and report concerns in line with existing policies and procedures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff record and report concerns on ‘My Concern’. DSLs are aware of the work of the Pan-Dorset Prevent Board. The DSL is aware of local issues specific to the school and disseminates information accordingly. 	All staff

	<p>The DSL will make appropriate referrals to other agencies including the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), the Children's Advice and Duty Service (ChADS) and Channel Panel.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Records of referrals to be kept on 'My Concern'.• Referrals are followed up appropriately.	<p>DSL</p>
--	--	---	------------

Staff Training			
Equip staff to identify children at risk of being drawn into terrorism and to challenge extremist ideas.	Assess the training needs of staff in the light of the school's assessment of the risk to pupils at the school of being drawn into terrorism.	The school should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all staff have undertaken Prevent Awareness Training as part of their Safeguarding Training. • The DSL ensures that all staff are aware of the Prevent Duty and provides further information and resources. • All staff have access to the government online Prevent awareness training and the Designated Safeguarding Lead is able to provide advice and support to other members of staff on protecting children from the risk of radicalisation. • Key members of staff have also completed the 'Channel General Awareness module' 	DSL Relevant staff identified by the DSL
IT Policies			
Endeavour to ensure that children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in schools	The school has policies in place which support the "Prevent" duty.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding Policy • Behaviour Policy (both Trust and School policies) • Policy on Pupils' Use of ICT, Mobile Phones and other (home based) Electronic Devices 	DSL
	Children are taught about on-line safety with age appropriate reference to the risk of radicalisation.	The curriculum reflects this duty.	DSL and Computing Lead PSHCE Lead Headteacher

	Measures are taken to minimise the risk of pupils accessing extremist material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Witchampton C of E First School uses SWGfL filtering systems. The School filters and blocks known harmful categories, including social media, within the school environment 	DSL and Computing Lead All teachers
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The School logs all browsing activity. The web filtering has an “extremism” category. It blocks extremist sites for all pupils and keeps a log of all searches for up to one year. The DSL is alerted verbally and by email of any suspicious web browsing or key strokes on the network. 	Supported by QE
Building children’s resilience to radicalisation			
Ensure that pupils have a safe environment in which to discuss controversial issues.	Pupils develop the knowledge, skills and understanding to prepare them to play a full and active part in society.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through PSHCE, RE and other curriculum activities, pupils are able to explore political, religious and social issues. Pupils are taught about the diverse national, regional and ethnic identities in the UK and the need for mutual respect. Staff are aware of the importance of promoting fundamental British values. 	PSHCE Lead /Headteacher Other relevant staff

References:

“Keeping Children Safe in Education: Information for all school and college staff” DfE, September 2022

“The Prevent Duty: Departmental advice for schools and childcare providers”, DfE, June 2015

Other useful resources:

Home Office e-learning: <https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/edu/screen1.html>

Educate Against Hate: <https://educateagainsthate.com/>

Let's Talk About It: <https://www.ltai.info/>

Reviewed by Headteacher and Deputy DSL

Reviewed by the Headteacher on 26th April 2024

To be reviewed on 26th April 2025