

Policy Date: January 2024

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St Oswald's C of E Academy

Prevent Risk Assessment

Introduction

Everyone who comes into contact with children and their families has a role to play in safeguarding children. Schools have a duty of care to their pupils and staff which includes safeguarding them from the risk of being drawn into terrorism - this includes not just violent extremism but also non-violent extremism, which can create an atmosphere conducive to terrorism and can popularise views which terrorists exploit. Schools should be safe spaces in which children and young people can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and the extremist ideas that are part of the terrorist ideology and learn how to challenge these ideas.

School staff are particularly important as they are in a position to identify concerns early and provide help for children, to prevent concerns from escalating. Schools and colleges and their staff form part of the wider safeguarding system for children. This system is described in statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018) and Keeping Children Safe in Education (2023). Schools and colleges should work with social care, the police, health services and other services to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm. Radicalisation is listed as a specific safeguarding issue within this statutory guidance and is addressed within the Government Prevent Strategy. The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty on Schools to 'have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism"'.

The Prevent Strategy has three main objectives:

- Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism & the threat we face from those who promote it;
- Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support;
- Work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation which we need to address.

Prevent Risk Assessment

St Oswald's 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
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	All staff attended Safeguarding Training September 2023 All staff have read "Keeping Children Safe in Education", Sep 2023 The Prevent Lead has informed staff of their duties as set out in "The Prevent Duty" (DfE, April 2021). All staff have completed the online Prevent Training (Home Office) - annual refresher, full training for new staff.
	Staff can identify individual children who may be at risk of radicalisation and how to support them.	The Prevent Lead has informed staff about signs and indicators of radicalisation.
	There is a clear procedure in place for protecting children at risk of radicalisation.	All staff have read the Safeguarding Policy which includes a statement regarding the school's "Prevent" duty. All staff understand how to record and report concerns regarding risk of radicalisation – via CPOMS
	The school has identified a Prevent Lead (Sharon Patton)	All staff know who the Prevent Lead is and that this person acts as a source of advice and support.
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.	Request an outline of what the speaker intends to cover Research the person/organisation to establish whether they have demonstrated extreme views/actions. Deny permission for people/organisations to use school premises if they have links to extreme groups.
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.	All staff record and report concerns to the Prevent Lead or DSLs - in writing via CPOMS

	The Prevent Lead makes appropriate referrals to other agencies including the Multi- Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and Channel Panel.	Records of referrals are kept on CPOMS Referrals are followed up appropriately (and challenged if necessary).
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 designated safeguarding leads and Prevent Lead undertakes Prevent Awareness Training. Ensure that the designated safeguarding lead is able to provide advice and support to other members of staff on protecting children from the risk of radicalisation. All staff completed online Prevent Training Relevant staff have completed the "General Awareness Training on Channel". (Referred to in the DfE guidance cited below).
IT Policies		
Ensure that children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in schools	The school has policies in place which make reference to the "Prevent" duty.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online safety policy • Acceptable use policy • Preventing bullying policy • Filtering and Monitoring policy
	Children are taught about on-line safety with specific reference to the risk of radicalisation	The curriculum reflects this duty.
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 PSHE/RSE 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. • Relevant staff are aware of the government guidance : https://www.gov.uk/government/news/guidance-onpromoting-british-values-in-schools- published/

“Keeping Children Safe in Education: Information for all school and college staff” DfE, 2023

“The Prevent Duty: Departmental advice for schools and childcare providers”, DfE, April 2021