

Prevent Policy

Colehill and Hayeswood First Schools

Risk Assessment and Action Plan

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?

HM Government Prevent Duty guidance states the following: 'From 1 July 2015 all schools....are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015.... to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. This duty is known as the Prevent duty.' We recognise our 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/Head of Schools has tasked the designated Safeguarding Lead as 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 DSL have each 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 (PSCHE) curriculum teaching pupils to manage risk, resist pressure, make safer choices and seek help if necessary.
- 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 IT 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 Childrens advice (CHAD) 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>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance/revise-prevent-duty-guidance-for-england-and-wales>

Appendix 1 – Guidance to Staff on Prevent Duty

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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 Hayeswood and Colehill First School the Designated Safeguarding Lead is Sharon Staddon. The Deputy DSLs are Helen Self, Sean Rayner and Sam Herrington. Sharon Staddon is also the Prevent Lead.
- The concerns may result in a referral to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), who will carry out a risk-assessment and then 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

Hayeswood and Colehill First schools recognise 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	Residual Risk (following Actions)
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 2025 and the School’s safeguarding / CP policy. The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) has informed staff of their duties as set out in “Revised Prevent Duty guidance for England and Wales (April 2019)”. All staff 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. All staff are 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. All staff aware of the local issues. 	<p>All staff</p> <p>DSL</p> <p>All staff</p> <p>All staff</p>	Low

	Staff can identify individual children who may be at risk of radicalisation and how to support them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff aware of signs / indicators of radicalisation, including those from extreme right wing / rural organisations. Local risks are known and links with Dorset Police are maximized to ensure local knowledge remains up to date and relevant. 	DSL	Low
	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. • DSLs are available to advise and support with this process as required. • DSLs are aware of the work of the Pan-Dorset Prevent Board. 	All staff	Low
	The school has identified DSLs, who take overall responsibility for Prevent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staff know who the DSLs are; • DSLs are a source of advice and support. • Trust Safeguarding Officer is also a source of advice and support for DSLs. 	All staff	Low
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) • The school conducts research on the person/organisation to establish whether they have demonstrated extreme views/actions. • The school refuses 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 (<i>Example: an extreme religious organisation who requested hall hire at weekends Summer 2015: this was refused following research, and written justification given</i>). 	DSL	Low

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 		
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. • Potential risks and new areas of concern are shared with all Trust schools, via the Trust's DSL Network, to ensure there is a co-ordinated assessment of / response to risks that develop. 	All staff DSLs	Low
	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 the Channel Panel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Records of all referrals are kept on 'My Concern'. • Referrals are followed up appropriately. • Named social worker contacts are established early in the process. 	DSL	Low

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.	<p>The school should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all staff have undertaken Prevent Awareness Training as part of their Safeguarding Training. This is updated annually. • 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 'Prevent e-learning Module' 	DSL DSL All staff	Low
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 and Child Protection Policy • Behaviour Policy • Policy on Pupils' Use of IT, Mobile Phones and other (home based) Electronic Devices 	DSL E Safety Lead	Low
	Children are taught about on-line safety with age appropriate reference to the risk of radicalisation.	The curriculum reflects this duty.	DSL/ IT & e safety Lead SLT	Low

	Measures are taken to minimise the risk of pupils accessing extremist material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colehill First School uses Trust filtering systems provided through Fortinet. • The School filters and blocks known harmful categories, including social media, within the school environment 	DSL/ IT & e safety Lead	Low
		<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 via Fortinet reporting of any suspicious web browsing or key strokes on the network. 	DSL/ IT & e safety Lead	Low
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, 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 and pupils learn about these in an accessible way through use of the ‘British Values Characters’ introduced from 2017. 	SLT	Low

References:

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

“The Prevent Duty: Revised Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales” DfE, April 2021

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/>

Cross the Line: <https://www.crosstheline.co.uk/>

Since 9/11: <https://since911.com/>

Connect Futures: <https://www.connectfutures.org/>

Extreme Dialogue: <https://extremedialogue.org/#stories>

Institute for Strategic Dialogue: <https://www.isdglobal.org/>

Commission for Countering Extremism: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/commission-for-countering-extremism>

Reviewed by Headteacher and DSL

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