

FIRTHMOOR PRIMARY SCHOOL



Protecting Children from Extremism and Radicalisation Policy (PREVENT)

Date Reviewed	September 2023
Description of Changes	Updated to reflect KCSIE (2023) and The PREVENT Duty (2023)
Date policy approved	October 2023
Review frequency	Annual
Review date	October 2024

In all cases or concerns regarding radicalisation, the Designated Safeguarding Lead must be informed.

Roles and Responsibilities for the current Academic Year:

Designated Safeguarding Lead / SPOC: Mrs Ann Dixon – Headteacher

Deputy Safeguarding Leads: Mrs Dawn Kilpatrick – Inclusion officer
Mrs Victoria Morrow – Deputy Headteacher
Miss Dawn Murray – Assistant Headteacher

Designated Safeguarding Governor Mrs Pat Irving

Further support

Prevent Key contacts

For concerns about children the DSL/SPOC should inform the Children's Access Point on 01325 406222 or email: childrensaccesspoint@darlington.gov.uk. For concerns about an adult at risk the Designated Lead/SPOC should inform Adult Social Care on 01325 406111 or e-mail ssact@darlington.gov.uk.

GOV.UK Prevent Duty Guidance

The Prevent duty: safeguarding learners vulnerable to radicalisation

Prevent Team

Contact Police on 0191 375 2234 (office hours)

Non-urgent enquiries 101, Emergency calls 999

To report illegal information, pictures or videos found on the internet www.gov.uk/report-terrorism. Anti-terrorist Hotline: 0800 789 321

Preventing extremism in schools and children's services: Helpline - **020 7340 7264** or email counter.extremism@education.gov.uk. For education staff and governors to raise concerns relating to extremism directly and in confidence or if you are concerned about extremism in a school or organisation that works with children, or if you think a child might be at risk of extremism.

The PREVENT strategy has three objectives;

- **Ideology** – Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote and support it.
- **Institutions** – Increase the resilience of institutions to resist terrorists and extremists. Priority areas include education, health, criminal justice system, faith institutions, internet, charitable sector, youth justice system.

- **Individuals** – Stop people from being drawn into terrorism and protect those vulnerable individuals who are at risk of radicalisation, ensuring they are given appropriate advice and support.

Channel is a key element of the PREVENT strategy. It is a multi-agency approach to identifying and supporting those individuals who are vulnerable and at risk from radicalisation. It is about safeguarding individuals from being drawn into committing terrorist related activity and about early intervention to protect and divert people away from the risk they face before illegality occurs.

Channel uses existing collaboration between local authorities, the police, statutory partners and the local community to:

- Identify individuals at risk of being drawn into terrorism;
- Assess the nature and extent of that risk; and
- Develop the most appropriate support plan for the individual concerned.

CHANNEL Panel Chair

Jo Benson, Head of Youth Offending Service
Contact details: 01325 406791

Due Diligence and Counter Extremism Group (DDCEG) Helpline - (020 7340 7264) For school staff and governors to raise concerns relating to extremism directly and in confidence.

Durham Constabulary Prevent Team

Sgt Jayne Freeman	Direct dial 0191 375 2555	Jayne.freeman@durham.pnn.police.uk
DC Steve Holden	Direct dial 0191 375 2905	Steven.holden@durham.pnn.police.uk

Concerns can be raised to Durham Constabulary using the Prevent referral form ([Appendix A](#)) and emailed to HQspecialbranch@durham.pnn.police.uk
For all suspicious behaviour which requires an immediate response contact Durham Constabulary on **101** or **999** in an emergency.

Cyber Prevent - <https://nerccu.police.uk/about/>

Our Contact details

Detective Sergeant 1770 Jamie RIELLY - T0191 375 2368 / 2233
Prevent DC SMITH / PC CRAMPSIE – T0191 375 2555

Email :

FIMUNorth@ctpne.police.uk (send your referral to for assessment)
Prevent@durham.police.uk (General enquiries)

Counter Terrorism and Borders Bill Fact Sheet
Counter Terrorism Policing

Sharing information

Specified authorities may need to share information about people to ensure, for example, that a person at risk of radicalisation is given appropriate support, such as on the Channel programme. When sharing personal data, specified authorities must comply with the requirements of data protection legislation as it applies to them.

It is important to remember that data protection legislation is not intended to prevent the sharing of personal data, but to ensure that it is done lawfully and with appropriate safeguards in place. While information-sharing should be considered on a case-by-case basis, it may be good practice in some circumstances – for example, where there is routine sharing – to have an information-sharing agreement in place.

The Information Commissioner's Office provides advice on the requirements of the data protection legislation for organisations. There may be some circumstances where specified authorities, in the course of Prevent-related work, identify someone who may already be engaged in illegal terrorist-related activity. If someone is suspected of being involved in such activity, the police should be informed immediately.

Further advice on information sharing can be found on GOV.UK

Proscribed organisations

Under the Terrorism Act 2000, the Home Secretary may proscribe an organisation if she believes it is concerned in terrorism, and it is proportionate to do. For the purposes of the Act, this means that the organisation:

- commits or participates in acts of terrorism;
- prepares for terrorism;
- promotes or encourages terrorism (including the unlawful glorification of terrorism); or
- is otherwise concerned in terrorism.

Click the links for supporting documentation

List of Proscribed Organisations

Prevent Duty Guidance

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

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/counter-terrorism-strategy-contest-2018>

<http://www.preventtragedies.co.uk/>

<https://familiesmatter.org.uk/>

Useful websites - Resources to use with pupils

<https://protectyoungeyes.com/>

<http://www.wherestheline.co.uk/>

<http://www.preventforschools.org/>

<https://educateagainsthate.com/>

Resources

The National Grid for Learning has very useful resources to support schools and colleges with the Prevent duty:

counterextremism.lgfl.net – practical implementation of the Prevent duty as part of a whole school approach

saferesources.lgfl.net – safeguarding resource portal where you can filter by topic, key stage and audience

fakenews.lgfl.net – resources to promote critical thinking online

safepolicies.lgfl.net – updated templates for school policies and AUPs for Sept 2020

digisafedigest.lgfl.net – RSHE online safety quiz with scenarios and feedback to promote classroom discussion

coronavirus.lgfl.net/safeguarding – guidance and resources to keep children safe during COVID, including remote learning, targeted to support DSLs, all staff, parents and pupils

This policy should be considered alongside other related policies within school

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Single Equality Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Online Safety and ICT Policy

Introduction

Schools have a vital role to play in protecting pupils from the risks of extremism and radicalisation, a role which is underpinned by the Counter- Terrorism and Security Act 2015 “to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

The Government’s Prevent Strategy has raised awareness of the specific need to safeguard children, young people and families from violent extremism and terrorism. There have been nationally situations in which extremist groups have attempted to radicalise susceptible children and young people to hold extreme views including views justifying political, religious, sexist or

racist violence, or to steer them into a rigid and narrow ideology that is intolerant of diversity and leaves them vulnerable to future radicalisation.

Firthmoor Primary School values freedom of speech and the expression of beliefs / ideology as fundamental rights underpinning our society's values. Both pupils/students and teachers have the right to speak freely and voice their opinions. However, freedom comes with responsibility and free speech that is designed to manipulate the vulnerable or that leads to violence and harm of others goes against the moral principles in which freedom of speech is valued. Free speech is not an unqualified privilege; it is subject to laws and policies governing equality, human rights, community safety and community cohesion.

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.

The current threat from terrorism in the United Kingdom may include the exploitation of susceptible people, to involve them in terrorism or in activity in support of terrorism. The normalisation of extreme views may also make children and young people vulnerable to future manipulation and exploitation. Firthmoor Primary School is clear that this exploitation and radicalisation should be viewed as a safeguarding concern.

Definitions of Radicalisation and Indicators of susceptibilities to radicalisation are in [appendix B](#)

Firthmoor Primary 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.

Firthmoor Primary School seeks to protect children and young people against the messages of all violent extremism including, but not restricted to, those linked to Islamist ideology, or to Far Right / Neo Nazi / White Supremacist ideology, Irish Nationalist and Loyalist paramilitary groups, and extremist Animal Rights movements.

Procedures for referrals

Keeping children / young people safe from these risks is a safeguarding matter and should be approached in the same way as safeguarding children from other risks.

Although serious incidents involving radicalisation have not occurred at Firthmoor Primary it is important for us to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues which affect the region in which we teach. Staff are reminded to suspend professional disbelief that instances of radicalisation 'could not happen here' and to refer any concerns through implementing the school safeguarding procedures, **via the Designated Safeguarding Lead / SPOC**

When any member of staff has concerns that a pupil may be at risk of radicalisation or involvement in terrorism, they should speak with the Prevent Single Point of Contact (SPOC) and to the Designated Safeguarding Lead if this is not the same person.

The Prevent Single Point of Contact (SPOC) will be the lead within the School for safeguarding in relation to protecting individuals from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism: this will normally be the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

The SPOC for **Firthmoor Primary School** is **Mrs Ann Dixon, Headteacher**. The responsibilities of the SPOC are described in [Appendix C](#)

Concerns and incidents regarding radicalisation can also be referred to Durham Police using the Prevent Referral form

Risk reduction

The school governors, the Head Teacher and the Designated Safeguarding Lead will assess the level of risk within the school and put actions in place to reduce any identified risks.

Aims and Principles

The main aims of this policy statement are to ensure that staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalisation; that they overcome professional disbelief that such issues will not happen here and ensure that we work alongside other professional bodies and agencies to ensure that our pupils are safe from harm.

The principle objectives are that:

- All governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- All governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff will know what the school policy is on anti-radicalisation and extremism and will follow the policy when issues arise.
- All parents and pupils will know that the school has policies in place to keep pupils safe from harm and that the school regularly reviews its systems to ensure they are appropriate and effective.

Definitions

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

Extremism is defined by Government in the prevent strategy as: Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual

respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. Also include in the definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces.

The Role of the Curriculum

Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. Children are encouraged to share their views and recognise that they are entitled to have their own different beliefs which should not be used to influence others.

Our PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education), Citizenship and SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) provision is embedded across the curriculum and underpins the ethos of the school.

Children are regularly taught about how to stay safe when using the internet and are encouraged to recognise that people are not always who they say they are online. They are taught to seek adult help if they are upset or concerned about anything they read or see on the internet.

Use of Online Technology and Social Media

Firthmoor Primary is aware of the risk of use of social media for online radicalisation. (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-use-of-social-media-for-online-radicalisation>)

We promote a positive and protective school ethos. The school has an acceptable use of ICT policy and pupils are taught about internet safety as part of our curriculum. Pupils are reminded of the importance of speaking to a trusted adult either in school or at home if they feel vulnerable or unsafe. This would include any concerns they have about images, messages or contacts online.

Filtering and Monitoring

The Academy ensures that there is appropriate filtering ([Netsweeper Education](#)) and monitoring systems in place that restricts access to inappropriate and harmful material without 'over blocking' or unreasonable restrictions. Any high-risk content or searches that have been attempted are alerted to the police, who then contact the Academy DSL. The DSL receives regular monitoring reports.

The Academy has Cyber insurance in place through the ESFA RPA and is part of the National Cyber Security Centre. The Academy receives regular NCSC notifications and reports of website and email checks.

Staff Training and responsibilities

All staff should look out for concerning changes in behaviour and report them to the designated safeguarding lead (DSL). School will ensure that all staff are fully aware of the threats, risks and

vulnerabilities that are linked to radicalisation; are aware of radicalisation and how this might be identified early on.

Staff attend annual refresher training alongside Child Protection and Safeguarding Training and are kept informed about Prevent and Safeguarding procedures, including responsibilities in relation to filtering and monitoring, through inductions, briefings and awareness training

How to report concerns

If staff need to report extremism concerns about an adult working in a school, college or organisation that works with children, young people or adult learners, they should:

- contact the local authority designated officer (LADO) through the local safeguarding partnership or local authority
- submit the details at [report extremism in education](#)

Policy Review

This policy statement will be reviewed annually as part of the overall Safeguarding and Child Protection policy review

Appendices

- A. Prevent Referral Form
- B. Indicators of susceptibility to radicalisation
- C. Role and responsibilities of the single point of contact (SPOC)



FPS PREVENT
Referral Form (Amen)

Appendix A

RESTRICTED



PREVENT Referral Form

Please complete the form to the best of your knowledge and with as much detail as possible.
This information will be administered by the relevant police force and passed to a local Prevent team.
Where possible we aim to give you feedback on your referral, however this is not always possible.

Once completed, please send the completed form to: HQspecialbranch@durham.pnn.police.uk

Have you discussed this individual with your organisations safeguarding lead? Yes No

Have you discussed your concerns about this individual with any other agencies? Yes No

Have you informed the individual that you are making this referral? Yes No

Please provide any further details

Date referral made

Your details

First name

Last name

Professional role and organisation

Relationship to individual

Telephone number

Email address

RESTRICTED

Appendix B

INDICATORS OF SUSCEPTIBILITY TO RADICALISATION

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

The levels of risk are:

- low risk
- at risk
- medium risk
- high risk

A learner can move very quickly between the risk categories. You should deal with any escalation of risk immediately and record this in their file.

If you're unsure about the level of need, you should ask for advice from:

- your local children's social care team (find contact details at [report child abuse to a local council](#))
- your local authority Prevent team
- other Prevent partners

If you're in doubt, you should share your concerns as per the '[Notice, Check, Share](#)' [procedure](#) and [make a Prevent referral](#).

Low risk

Low risk means there's no evidence to suggest the learner is susceptible to radicalisation into terrorism. Low risk behaviours, when seen alone, would not necessarily need to be explored further.

Low risk behaviours include:

- holding strong opinions or values (non-violent or non-extremist)
- criticising government policies

- adopting visible signs, for example wearing clothing (non-violent or non-extremist), to express identity or sense of belonging
- being active on social media
- taking a keen interest in national and international affairs
- demonstrating support and supporting causes, for example animal rights (non-violent)
- showing new interest in a political ideology or religion
- holding or expressing conservative values or practices, whether traditional, cultural or religious (unless they cause harm to a child or others, for example female genital mutilation)

Low risk: what to do

Where there is low risk, you should think about:

- talking informally to the learner about the changes in their behaviour
- providing an opportunity to debate controversial issues in a safe space
- offering information about how to keep safe online

Educate Against Hate has [resources for schools to safeguard students](#) and Education and Training Foundation has [resources for FE providers](#).

The [Prevent duty guidance](#) says that schools and FE providers should be safe spaces in which learners can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and the extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology, and to learn how to challenge these ideas.

Regular Prevent training will help staff understand what radicalisation means and why learners may be susceptible to becoming a terrorist or supporting terrorism.

For an example of managing a low risk concern, see [case study 4: responding to extremism concerns in the classroom](#).

At risk

A learner at risk may be showing behaviours that could increase their risk and vulnerability to radicalisation.

If a learner is showing at risk behaviour, you should explore this further to see if you need to make a Prevent referral.

At risk behaviour includes:

- being drawn to conspiracy theories
- beginning to isolate themselves from family and friends
- viewing or engaging with inappropriate online content and having uncontrolled or unsupervised access to the internet
- expressing concerns about being victimised, for example feeling under attack
- discriminating against other individuals or groups of people
- a sudden change in behaviour
- showing interest in extremists or extreme groups
- expressing views that divide us, for example talking about 'us' and 'them'

At risk: what to do

If you think a learner is at risk, you should look at their behaviour and gather all the information you need to make a full assessment of risk and harm.

You should ask yourself:

- if you have enough information to make a comprehensive assessment
- what's happened in the past to trigger the incident
- if this is an isolated incident or a pattern of behaviour
- what else you know and if there any relevant vulnerability factors
- if there are any relevant contextual factors - for example, previous safeguarding concerns, behaviour, attendance, attainment, general wellbeing
- if there are any protective factors - for example, supportive personal relationships with peers and family, environmental factors such as school, college, provider or home life

You should:

- talk to the learner in a safe space - see [how to speak to a learner susceptible to radicalisation](#)
- talk to the parents or carers (if under 18) about your concerns - see 'informing the child, young person, parents or carers' in [making a referral to Prevent](#)
- make a holistic assessment of vulnerability, examining risk and protective factors as set out on page 15 of [working together to safeguard children](#)

If you need to make a Prevent referral, you can ask Prevent partners for advice and support.

When asking for advice, you do not need to identify the learner. Keep a written record of all concerns, discussions and decisions made, and the reasons for those decisions.

If you're in any doubt, [make a Prevent referral](#).

The best person to speak to a learner is any professional, parent or carer (if under 18) who has a good relationship with them.

If you think the risk is escalating, follow your Prevent referral procedures and read the guidance for medium or high-risk cases.

Medium risk

Medium risk means a learner is at heightened risk of radicalisation. There may be several indicators of risk.

If the learner is at risk of harm, you should make a Prevent referral immediately.

Medium risk behaviour includes:

- legitimising the use of violence to defend ideology or cause
- accessing extremist or terrorist websites, forums and publications
- expressing dehumanising views
- expressing an interest to travel to a conflict zone
- being in contact with a group or individuals known to support a violent extremist ideology, either online or in real life
- expressing persistent intolerance towards groups of people perceived as 'other' - this may be based on protected characteristics such as gender, religion or ethnicity, but not exclusively
- demonstrating a fixation with weaponry or explosives (this may include posing in concerning photographs or videos with weaponry), without an otherwise reasonable explanation
- being obsessed with massacre, or extreme or mass violence, without targeting a particular group (for example, high school shootings)

Medium risk: what to do

If you suspect a learner is at medium risk, you should assess their vulnerability and examine the risk and protective factors as set out in the statutory guidance on working together to safeguard children.

You should ask yourself:

- if there's reasonable cause to suspect that the learner is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm

- what the risks are and what would happen if these needs are not met - what the impact will be on the learner - what you're worried about
- what else you know and if there are any relevant vulnerability factors
- if there are any relevant contextual factors - for example, previous safeguarding concerns, behaviour, attendance and attainment records and general wellbeing
- if there are any protective factors - for example, supportive personal relationships with peers and family, environmental factors such as school, college, provider or home life

If the learner is suffering from or is at risk of harm including vulnerability to radicalisation, you should act immediately and follow your internal safeguarding policy, including the designated safeguarding lead considering making a referral to Prevent. Your Prevent partners may give you advice or forward the referral on to Channel as appropriate.

Channel is a multi-agency partnership that supports people identified as at risk of being drawn into terrorism. Channel focuses on early intervention to provide support at an early stage. To find out more, read 'Channel support' in making a referral to Prevent.

You should also carry out an assessment to identify whether any needs should be met by more than one agency, for example child and adolescent mental health services. If you're not sure if you should do this, your local authority may suggest this when you make the Prevent referral.

When you share information about a child or young person who is under 18, you should try to get parental consent but only if it is safe to do so. Do not put the child or young person in more danger. For more guidance, read 'informing the child, young person, parents or carers' in making a referral to Prevent.

To find out more, read the case studies, which involve different ideologies, issues, age ranges and examples of interventions.

High risk

High risk means a learner is at significant risk. There's evidence that they're currently exposed to terrorist or extremist activity and there's a significant risk to their safety.

If they're showing high risk, criminal behaviour, tell the police immediately.

High risk, criminal behaviour includes:

- verbally or physically attacking someone due to their race, religion, sexuality and so on
- committing violent acts guided by a violent extremist ideology or group

- taking part in any proscribed violent extremist group (financing, sharing material online, recruiting others and so on)
- having a 'kill list' or detailed plan to carry out mass violence
- producing or sharing terrorist material offline or online
- recruiting others to a proscribed terrorist group or organisation

High risk: what to do

You should ask yourself if the learner:

- needs support from more than one agency
- is about to put themselves or others in danger
- is at risk due to actions of their parents or carers, or wider family members
- has made violent threats to your setting

Tell the police immediately if you suspect a learner:

- is about to put themselves or others in danger by travelling to join a proscribed organisation, or
- appears to be involved in planning to carry out a criminal offence

If you suspect a learner is likely to commit an attack on your setting, contact the police and local authority for immediate support.

To find out how to keep your setting safe, read the [school and college security](#) guidance.

Interest in targeted violence

If a learner supports the use of violence but is not particularly interested in an extremist ideology, or is interested in lots of ideologies, you should:

- follow your usual safeguarding arrangements
- ask your local authority or Prevent team for support or advice

If you need to, [make a Prevent referral](#).

This includes if the learner is interested in:

- multiple ideologies, such as white supremacy and involuntary celibates (incels)
- targeted violence - wanting to kill members of staff or other learners

Appendix c **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT (SPOC)**

The SPOC Firthmoor Primary is Ann Dixon, Headteacher who is responsible for:

- Ensuring that staff of the school are aware that you are the SPOC in relation to protecting students/pupils from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism;
- Maintaining and applying a good understanding of the relevant guidance in relation to preventing students/pupils from becoming involved in terrorism, and protecting them from radicalisation by those who support terrorism or forms of extremism which lead to terrorism;
- Raising awareness about the role and responsibilities of Firthmoor Primary School in relation to protecting students/pupils from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism;
- Monitoring the effect in practice of the school's RE curriculum and assembly policy to ensure that they are used to promote community cohesion and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs;
- Raising awareness within the school about the safeguarding processes relating to protecting students/pupils from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism;
- Acting as the first point of contact within the school for case discussions relating to students / pupils who may be at risk of radicalisation or involved in terrorism;
- Collating relevant information from in relation to referrals of vulnerable students / pupils into the Channel* process;
- attending Channel* meetings as necessary and carrying out any actions as agreed;
- Reporting progress on actions to the Channel*; and
- Sharing any relevant additional information in a timely manner.

* Channel is a multi-agency approach to provide support to individuals who are at risk of being drawn into terrorist related activity.

Channel aims to:

- Establish an effective multi-agency referral and intervention process to identify vulnerable individuals;

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- Safeguard individuals who might be vulnerable to being radicalised, so that they are not at risk of being drawn into terrorist-related activity; and
- Provide early intervention to protect and divert people away from the risks they face and reduce vulnerability.