

Greenwich House Independent School, Kindergarten and Creche

Prevent Duty Policy

This policy is prepared using and quoting directly from the following publications:-

- DFE “The Prevent duty -Safeguarding learners vulnerable to radicalisation
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-prevent-duty-safeguarding-learners-vulnerable-to-radicalisation?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=72f0d399-5a8b-4dd9-850f-addcf5a8f58f&utm_content=daily- () -
- Home Office „Revised Prevent duty guidance: last updated 7 September 2023“ - [Revised Prevent duty guidance: for England and Wales - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- DFE “Keeping Children Safe in Education (September 2023) - [Keeping children safe in education - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children & Young People 2018 - https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/729914/Working_Together_to_Safeguard_Children-2018.pdf
- HM Gov. Channel Guidance- Preventing vulnerable people from being drawn into terrorism 2020 - [Channel Duty Guidance: Protecting people vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

Policy Statement

From 1 July 2015 all schools, registered early years childcare providers and registered later years childcare providers (referred to in this advice as ‘childcare providers’) are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, in the exercise of their functions, to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. This duty is known as the Prevent duty. It applies to a wide range of public-facing bodies. (DFE “The Prevent duty - Departmental advice for schools and childcare providers (June 2015))

This policy should not be read in isolation. It should be read together with Greenwich House’s other policies including, in particular, its Child Protection (Safeguarding) Policy, Equal Opportunities Policy, Anti-bullying policies, Behaviour policies, E-safety Policy, Staff Code of Conduct, Code of Conduct for Parents, Carers and Visitors, British Values Policy, Staff Social Networking and Digital Policy (incorporating the Acceptable User Policy), and, Parental Use of Social and Networking Sites Policy and Visitors Policy. Reference should also be made to the latest Ofsted guidance. Our policies, procedures and practices may be impacted by emergency incidents such as those that were followed in respect of Coronavirus Covid 19. In the event of our policies, procedures and practices being amended in light of such a scenario the importance of Child Protection will form an integral part of any risk assessment and design of these. All statutory guidance will continue to be followed. Where appropriate such changes will be provided to employees, parents and carers and pupils as well as other effected parties.

Definitions and indicators

What is Radicalism?

Radicalism refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism. A radicaliser is an individual who encourages others to develop or adopt beliefs and views supportive of terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism.

Radicalisation is a form of grooming and therefore abuse.

What is Extremism?

Extremism is defined in the 2011 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. The definition of extremism also includes calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas.

Practice and Procedure

At Greenwich House it is essential that staff are able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation, and know what to do when they are identified. Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation should be seen as part of Greenwich House's wider safeguarding duties, and is similar in nature to protecting children from other harms (e.g. drugs, gangs, neglect, sexual exploitation), whether these come from within their family or are the product of outside influences.

During the process of radicalisation it is possible to intervene to prevent vulnerable people being radicalised. There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to an extremist ideology. It can happen in many different ways and settings. Specific background factors may contribute to vulnerability which are often combined with specific influences such as family, friends or online, and with specific needs for which an extremist or terrorist group may appear to provide an answer. The internet and the use of social media in particular has become a major factor in the radicalisation of young people.

Example indicators that could suggest an individual is engaged with an extremist group, cause or ideology could include as below:

- Day-to-day behaviour becoming increasingly centred on an extremist ideology, group or cause.
- Loss of interest in other friends and activities not associated with the extremist ideology, group or cause.
- Possession of materials or symbols associated with an extremist cause.
- Attempts to recruit others to the group/cause.
- Communications with others that suggests identification with a group, cause or ideology of concern
- Using insulting and/or derogatory names for another group.
- Increase in prejudice-related incidents committed by that person – these may include;
 - physical or verbal assault
 - provocative behaviour
 - damage to property
 - derogatory name calling
 - possession of prejudice-related materials
 - prejudice related ridicule or name calling
 - inappropriate forms of address
 - refusal to co-operate
 - attempts to recruit to prejudice-related organisations
 - condoning or supporting violence towards others.

Radicalisation can be a complex issue and therefore the above examples are not exclusive and each case should be considered on its merits & professional advice sought where any doubts exist.

We can also build pupils' resilience to radicalisation by promoting fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs through Greenwich House's curriculum including Religious Education, Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education and Information Technology (eg. Including staying safe on the internet). We can also build pupils' resilience by enabling them to challenge extremist views. All staff are instructed to challenge extremist and radical views. It is important to emphasise that the Prevent duty is not intended to stop pupils debating controversial issues. On the contrary, in the older classes we will always provide a safe space in which children, young people and staff can understand the risks associated with terrorism and develop the knowledge and skills to be able to challenge extremist arguments. In the School, Kindergarten and Creche we can emphasise this in daily work such as assisting the children's personal, social and emotional development and understanding of the world.

All staff are DBS checked.

Staff receive training as part of Greenwich House's Child Protection and Safeguarding duties.

Greenwich House has in place a policy and procedure for visitors to its premises. Any external speakers or visitors are invited with the authority of the Head Teacher or her designated representative who will make such enquiries and take such steps as are necessary prior to inviting a speaker to comply with Greenwich House's duties under this policy and its other relevant policies including consulting with the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

This policy will be reviewed annually.

Risk assessment

All the school staff, particularly the staff who work directly with the children are expected to assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorism, including support for extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology.

This means being able to demonstrate both a general understanding of the risks affecting children and young people in the area and a specific understanding of how to identify individual children who may be at risk of radicalisation and what to do to support them.

As with managing other safeguarding risks, staff should be alert to changes in children's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection.

Staff should use their professional judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately which may include making a referral to the Channel program - see below.

Procedure for reporting concerns

If a member of staff in a school has a concern about a particular pupil, they should follow the school's normal safeguarding procedures, including discussing with the school's designated safeguarding leads (who have responsibility in this area) who will, where deemed necessary, contact children's social care. Settings should follow their usual Early Help and safeguarding processes in the first instance.

You can also contact your local police force or dial 101 (the non-emergency number).

They can talk to you in confidence about your concerns and help you gain access to support and advice. Also, they can advise if this would be a case for Channel.

The Department for Education has dedicated a telephone helpline (020 7340 7264) to enable staff and governors to raise concerns relating to extremism directly.

Concerns can also be raised by email to counter.extremism@education.gov.uk.

If through completing an Early Help Assessment with the child and family a setting identifies or is concerned about radicalisation then a channel referral form should be completed.

Early intervention is vital and any concerns, should be referred to CHANNEL by using the <https://www.lincs.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/t/prevent/prevent/beta/prevent-team-referral>

CHANNEL is a key element of the Prevent strategy. It is a multi-agency safeguarding approach to protect people at risk from radicalisation and is not a criminal Justice sanction. Channel uses existing collaboration between local authorities, statutory partners, the police 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 individuals concerned.

Channel is about safeguarding children and adults from being drawn into committing terrorist-related activity.

It is about early intervention to protect and divert people away from the risk they face before illegality occurs.

It provides a mechanism for schools to make referrals if they are concerned that an individual might be vulnerable to radicalisation. An individual's engagement with the programme is entirely voluntary at all stages.

Section 36 of the CTSA 2015 places a duty on local authorities to ensure Channel panels are in place. The panel must be chaired by the local authority and include the police for the relevant local authority area. Following a referral the panel will assess the extent to which identified individuals are vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism, and, where considered appropriate and necessary consent is obtained, arrange for support to be provided to those individuals.

Channel is available at:

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

If you suspect a criminal offence has taken place or a child is at immediate harm you must contact the police on 101 or in an emergency 999.

Settings have a responsibility to communicate with the prevent team to ensure they have the latest information and are liaising with the appropriate agencies.

Where there is a concern about a member of staff Greenwich House's Safeguarding Policy should be followed (including its Allegations against a member of staff and Whistle Blowing policies where appropriate). Any concerns regarding members of staff must also be reported to the Local Authority Designated Officers (LADO) on telephone number 01522 554674

Useful resources, contacts and links:

- Ruth Fox, Safeguarding in Education Welfare Officer
Children's Services, Lincolnshire County Council
T: 01522 554695
E: safeguardinginschools@lincolnshire.gov.uk
- Lincolnshire County Council, 01522 555367, prevent@lincolnshire.gov.uk

- Lincolnshire Police Prevent Team on 01522 885350 or via email CTP-EM-Prevent-Referral@lincs.police.uk
- Lincolnshire Police Channel Referrals – see link above
- Anti-terrorist hotline 0800 789 321
- DfE – Making a referral to Prevent (last updated 7 September 2023 - https://www.gov.uk/guidance/making-a-referral-to-prevent?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=e36a03b3-5df1-42e8-be00-0a595b514270&utm_content=daily)

For immediate threats, such as a suspicious package or vehicle always call 999.

Update from new guidance - December 2023

The Department of Education (DfE) has introduced some updates to the Prevent duty guidance, effective from 31 December 2023, in alignment with recommendations of the [Independent Review of Prevent](#).

While the core components of Prevent remain unchanged, there have been adaptations to the ideological causes of terrorism and what schools can do, for example, building resilience through the curriculum. A new section on information sharing and how it links to [Keeping children safe in education \(KCSIE\)](#) has also been included. The DfE has assembled a [sector briefing](#) explaining the changes.

Prevent duty is the school's responsibility, and they should continue to understand their Prevent duty requirements as part of their wider safeguarding responsibilities outlined in KCSIE.

The Notice, Check, Share procedure:

Prevent has introduced a simple yet effective procedure for addressing concerns about someone getting involved in terrorism: Notice, Check, Share.

1. Notice:

School staff are encouraged to observe for signs such as advocating extremist messages or refusing to listen to different points of view.

2. Check:

Those working closely with young people are well-placed to notice changes in behaviour. If you think a child or young person might be at risk of being radicalised into terrorism, you should share your concerns with the designated safeguarding lead (DSL).

Ask yourself or a colleague:

- Is there an alternative explanation?
- Has there been a change of circumstances at home?
- Are your colleagues seeing these behaviours?

3. Share:

In the event of a concern, you should follow standard safeguarding procedures and share your concerns with the DSL. The DSL, in turn, should be familiar with local procedures for making a Prevent referral. Remember to share information early to help reduce risk and get support for the young person if needed.

Dated: February 2024