

# **Prevent Policy**

(Including children in the EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage)

#### Introduction

The Prevent duty is a legal obligation for specified public authorities in the UK, such as schools and local authorities, to take "due regard" to prevent people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. It is part of the broader <u>Prevent Strategy</u>, which aims to tackle the causes of radicalisation, respond to terrorist ideologies, safeguard vulnerable individuals, and support those who have disengaged from terrorism.

# Legal Basis:

The duty was established by the **Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015**.

# The objectives of Prevent are to:

- tackle the ideological causes of terrorism
- intervene early to support people susceptible to radicalisation
- enable people who have already engaged in terrorism to disengage and rehabilitate

Caversham Preparatory School accepts the DfE's definition that radicalisation is the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremisms leading to terrorism. During that process it is possible to intervene to prevent vulnerable people being drawn into terrorist-related activity.

Caversham Preparatory School also accepts the DfE's definition of extremism 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. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas. Terrorist groups very often draw on extremist ideas developed by extremist organisations.

The purpose of our Prevent Duty Policy is, therefore, to combat the radicalisation of potentially vulnerable youths by protecting them from extremist views and combating those views should they arise within the remit of the Caversham Preparatory School.

The school must consider what they can do to protect children from the risk of radicalisation, just as they try to protect them from drugs, neglect and sexual exploitation. Fulfilling this duty involves the undertaking of efforts to identify potentially radicalising factors and material (including access to it, i.e. the internet) and potentially vulnerable youths.

The risks will be managed by various means: existing safeguarding measures, the teaching of British values, and the providing of a system of support and guidance. Caversham Preparatory School wishes to emphasise that the Prevent Duty Policy is not intended to stop pupils debating controversial issues. It simply wishes to provide a safe environment within which they can do so, while also making them aware of the risks associated with terrorism, thereby providing them with the knowledge and skills to be able to challenge and reject extremist arguments.



#### **Definition**

Extremism can be defined as "holding of extreme opinions: the holding of extreme political or religious views or the taking of extreme actions on the basis of those views".

Our role, as a school, is outlined more specifically in the DCSF document 'Learning together to be safe: A toolkit to help schools contribute to the prevention of violent extremism.'

### **Process**

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is responsible for all child protection in our school. This is the first point of contact for any child, staff, or parents who believe that their child or any staff member is at risk of radicalisation.

The DSL will advise and act upon all suspicion, belief and evidence of all reported cases of radicalisation and keep the Head Teacher informed of all actions unless the Head Teacher is the subject of a complaint.

In this situation, where an allegation or complaint is made against the Head Teacher, the person receiving the allegation should immediately inform the Executive Head Teacher, without first notifying the Head Teacher who will then liaise with the LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer).

#### **Aims**

At Caversham Preparatory School we follow the principles outlined in the DCSF toolkit which seeks to:

- Raise awareness within school of the threat from violent extremist groups and the risks for young people.
- Provide information about what can cause violent extremism, about preventative actions taking place locally and nationally and where we can get additional information and advice.
- Help schools understand the positive contribution they can make to empower young
  people to create communities that are more resilient to extremism and protecting the
  wellbeing of pupils or groups who may be vulnerable to being drawn into violent extremist
  activity.
- Provide advice on managing risks and responding to incidents locally, nationally or internationally that might have an impact on the school community.

#### Curriculum

Curriculum time is given to 'Prevent'. Our curriculum has both specific and direct teaching on Prevent issues as well as embedded British and Non-Extremist Values. The lessons are age specific and cover the Prevent Agenda in: British Values lessons, RE or PSCHE lessons, History or Geography lessons, Current Affairs lessons and debates. We also teach children about their own safeguarding and 'Safer Surfing' on the internet (see IT Policy).

#### **Staff Awareness**

Our CPD training covers how to monitor our own and others' values and views and how we sensitively deliver a non-radicalisation agenda. We are aware that we are moulding young minds and must make sure that we follow the School's Ethos and Culture at all times.

Prevent Training is a statutory requirement for all teaching and support staff under the Prevent duty.



## Safeguarding

Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is part of Caversham Preparatory School's wider safeguarding duties and should be treated in the same vein as protecting children from other harms (e.g. drugs, neglect, and sexual exploitation). Staff must be alert to changes in children's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Children at risk of radicalisation may display different signs or seek to hide their views. It is the responsibility of the DSLs to raise awareness of the risks of radicalisation amongst the staff and ensure that Staff safeguarding training. The Local Authority and the Police will be able to provide help and advice if necessary, as well as contextual information to further help understand and identify the potential risks.

#### Risk Assessment

There is no single way of identifying an individual who may be susceptible to terrorist ideology. Family, friends, social media and radical websites may exert a negative influence. However, a pupil displaying the following might be at risk:

- Changes in behaviour withdrawn, troubled, unable to concentrate, given to angry outbursts, secretive;
- Sudden more vocal about world affairs, particularly area of conflict prone to terrorist activity;
- Suddenly less vocal about these issues;
- Reporting any extremist views expressed by his/her parents or friends which may cause concern;
- Referring to any extremist material found online.
- An individual may also become vulnerable to extremist influence if he/she:
- Has suffered verbal or physical abuse, or more serious crime, based on race or faith;
- Has problems over personal identity because of race or faith;
- Experiences family tensions caused by race or faith;
- Is easily influenced by other people because of low self-esteem or peer pressure.

# Further guidance

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For non-emergency situations, Police:	dial 101 for confidential discussion, advice and support	
DfE:	020 7340 7264	
Email:	counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk	
Prevent Duty:	https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/439598/prevent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf	
Channel Awareness Training:	http://course.ncalt.com/Channel_General_Awareness/01/index.html	
UK Safer Internet	http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/	
Promoting British Values: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/news/guidance-on-promoting-british-values-in-schools-published">https://www.gov.uk/government/news/guidance-on-promoting-british-values-in-schools-published</a>		



# **Policy Administration**

# **Linked Policies**

This policy also needs to be in line with other school polices and therefore should be read in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Safeguarding Policy and Child Protection Policy
- E-Safety Policy

# **Quoted Legislation and Guidance**

- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 Section 26
- <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachme">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachme</a>
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  <a href="https://assets.publishing.government/uploads/system/uploads/attachme">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/

## **Review Schedule**

This policy is reviewed annually by the Head Teacher unless circumstances require an earlier review.

# **Update and Review Log**

Updated/ Reviewed By	Date	Notes
J Lawson	Nov 2017	Written as Education Governor
C Neal	Sept 2019	Head Teacher Review
N. Williams	September 2021	KCSIE 2021 updates Safeguarding note Risk Assessment note
J Lawson	September 2022	as part of the Staff Induction Process
J Lawson	December 2023	Reviewed for new legislation
M Brown	January 2024	Governor Review
J Lawson	April 2025	Mandatory Staff Training during INSET