

Preventing Extremism & Radicalisation

The 'Prevent' duty:

All education settings must try to prevent children and young people from being drawn into extremism and/or terrorism, whilst carrying out your usual educational functions.

Extremism is defined as:

Opposition to fundamental values, e.g. democracy, law, liberty, respect & tolerance of other faiths & beliefs; that can be used to sow division on the basis of race, faith, denomination; to justify discrimination towards women and girls; persuade others that minorities are inferior etc.

It includes e.g. far right views, animal rights activism and religious fundamentalism.

- Protecting students from these risks is similar to protecting them from harm and abuse.
- The Prevent programme must not involve any covert activity against people or communities.
- However, specified authorities may need to share personal information, e.g. to ensure that a student who is at risk of radicalisation is given appropriate support.

Factors making students vulnerable include:

- Pressure from peers & others or the internet
- Crime against them or involvement in crime
- Anti-social behaviour and bullying
- Family tensions
- Race or hate crime
- Lack of self-esteem or identity
- Personal or political grievances

Signs to look out for include:

- Isolation
- Fixation on an ideology/belief/subject
- Sense of injustice/grievance
- Subjected to group influence/control
- Seeking identity/meaning/belonging
- 'Them' and 'us' perspective on situations
- Attitudes that justify offending etc.

If you think a student might be at risk:

- Inform your DSL/D immediately
- The DSL/D can assess the needs of the student & their family with an Early Help Assessment (EHA)
- The student & their family can be supported within school & a 'team around the family' meeting
- If the concern is serious or immediate, the DSL/D will refer this straight away to Children's Social Care. If necessary, the Police & other agencies will be involved
- Where necessary, accessing additional support to reduce vulnerability through the Channel Programme will be considered

Education settings should ensure that:

- They are alert to changes in behaviour which may indicate that a student needs help or protection
- They discuss & challenge ideas via the curriculum, debates, outside speakers, etc.
- They have clear procedures in place to assess & protect students at risk
- Designated Safeguarding Leads & Deputies:
 - undertake mandatory 'Workshop for Raising Awareness of Prevent' (WRAP) training
 - provide briefings, awareness, advice and support to staff & volunteers
- Students are safe from terrorist & extremist material when accessing the settings internet
- They give a **proportionate** response to this risk
- They work with all services, e.g. Youth Justice, Social Care, & Community Youth Teams, to ensure the welfare of students, staff & visitors.

'Prevent' does not:

- Stop students from debating 'risky' issues
- Require staff to intrude unnecessarily into family life
- Override your legal duties of ensuring freedom of speech within legal boundaries

Be careful that you do not stereotype – any group or community can be drawn to extremist ideas & put a child or young person at risk.

'Prevent' Single Point of Contact:

Hannah Appleyard, Tel: **0114 2734850**

Anyone can report a concern in confidence to:

Police Prevent Team: Tel: **0114 2523217** (8-4PM)

Out of hours: 101, or in an emergency 999

Email: Prevent@southyorks.pnn.police.uk

Useful resources:

- [Prevent Duty Guidance, DfE 2015](#)
- [Keeping Children Safe in Education, DfE 2018](#)
- [ACT campaign \(including Education resources\)](#)
- [Terrorism Act 2000](#)
- [Channel Guidance, HO 2015](#)
- [SSCB Child Protection & Safeguarding Procedures](#)