

Prevent risk assessment for schools

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A risk assessment is a core part of implementing the Prevent duty. All providers should read guidance from the department on how to complete a risk assessment and on safeguarding students vulnerable to radicalisation. Schools should assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorism, including support for extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology.

Providers may choose to have a specific separate risk assessment to better communicate to staff and document actions taken to mitigate any risks.

The purpose of the risk assessment is to have an awareness and understanding of the risk of radicalisation in your area and your institution. The type and scale of activity that will address the risk will vary but should be proportionate to the level of risk, type of provision, size and phase of education.

This is an internal document and should be reviewed annually, in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education requirements, or following a serious incident.

National Risks – risk of radicalisation generally

What national risks are you aware of that could impact to your area, setting, students or families? For example, online radicalisation

Risk 1: Online radicalisation	Risk 2:	Risk 3	Risk 4				

Local Risks – risk of radicalisation in your area and institution

What specific local risks are you aware of that could impact to your area, setting, students or families? E.g. local extremist activity (groups active in the area)

Risk 1: Exposure to local extremist activity, such as marches, events, sticker, graffiti	Risk 2: Exposure to ideological views of family members, friends or members of the local community	Risk 3	Risk 4				

Leadership and Partnership

Category	Risk	Hazard	Risk management	Rag	Further action needed	Lead officer	Date for completion	Support available
Leadership	What is the risk here? The setting does not place sufficient priority to Prevent and risk assessment/action plans (or does not have one) and therefore actions to mitigate risks and meet the requirements of the Duty are not effective.	What are the hazards? Leaders (including governors and trustees) within the organisation do not understand the requirements of the Prevent Statutory Duty or the risks faced by the organisation. The Duty is not managed or enabled at a sufficiently senior level.	What has your institution put in place to ensure sufficient understanding and buy-in from Leadership? Prevent training for ALL staff (including SLT) and governors.		What does your institution need to further action to address the identified risk(s)?	Anna Bewsher		Prevent e-learning Home Office offer a free e-learning package on Prevent covering: - Prevent awareness - Prevent referrals - understanding Channel Users that complete this training will receive a certificate. https://www.support-people-vulnerable-to-radicalisation.service.gov.uk/
		Leaders do not have understanding and ultimate ownership of their internal safeguarding processes, nor ensuring that all staff have sufficient understanding and that staff implement the duty effectively.	Lead governor for safeguarding is at appropriate seniority.			Anna Bewsher		
		Leaders do not communicate and promote the importance of the duty.	Sufficient leadership ownership – risk assessments, safeguarding policies, etc. being signed off by SLT.			Anna Bewsher		
		Leaders do not drive an effective safeguarding culture across the institution.	Leadership have clear understanding of reporting and referral mechanisms.			Anna Bewsher		
		Leaders do not provide a safe environment in which children can learn.	Ensuring the sharing of safeguarding policies – staff sign to confirm the reading of such policies.			Anna Bewsher		
			Promotion of a safeguarding culture through regular training, discussions, etc with senior staff visibly involved. Clear induction for new members of staff and trainee teachers			Anna Bewsher		
			Leaders use self-evaluation to identify key priorities for continuous improvement			Anna Bewsher		
Working in Partnership	The setting is not fully appraised of national and local risks, does not work with partners to safeguard children vulnerable to radicalisation, and does not have access to good practice advice, guidance or supportive peer networks.	The organisation does not establish effective partnerships with organisations such as the Local Authority and Police Prevent Team.	BPS has strong partnerships with: • Local Safeguarding Children's Partnership • DSL / headteacher forums • LADO • Community Safety Partnerships • Police Prevent Team • Channel panel • Child and family		AB to explore partnerships with Police Prevent team, and Channel Panel	Anna Bewsher	Apr-24	Prevent duty guidance Outlines the requirements of the duty, including working in partnership with others. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance/revise-prevent-duty-guidance-for-england-and-wales/a-risk-based-approach-to-the-prevent-duty Understanding channel An overview of channel support and the Prevent Multi-Agency Panels (PMAP). https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/channel-and-prevent-multi-agency-panel-pmap-guidance Sign-up for Educate Against Hate newsletter Latest news, blogs and resources to help teachers, school leaders and designated safeguarding leads protect students from radicalisation https://signup.es-mail.co.uk/Signup/d659377ec9f69e8d40363308d4b84c
			Effective partnerships might include: • Regular attendance at meetings, boards or forums • In receipt of newsletters e.g. Educate Against Hate • Being able to demonstrate effective partnerships by use of the referral process or involvement in Channel		AB to subscribe to 'Educate against hate' newsletter	Anna Bewsher	Apr-24	

Capabilities

Staff training	Staff do not recognise signs of abuse or vulnerabilities and the risk of harm is not reported properly and promptly by staff.	Frontline staff including governors, do not understand what radicalisation means and why people may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism	Training is broader than face to face or e-learning. You should consider how to communicate information to staff e.g. via staff updates, notices, emails		Currently, staff and governor takes place through National College E-Learning module followed by face-to-face morning. Consider adding PREVENT section to Headteacher report for Governors under 'safeguarding'	Anna Bewsher	Apr-24	Prevent e-learning Home Office offer a free e-learning package on Prevent covering: - Prevent awareness - Prevent referrals - understanding Channel Users that complete this training will receive a certificate. https://www.support-people-vulnerable-to-radicalisation.service.gov.uk/ Prevent resources, guidance and support The department's Educate Against Hate website provides a range of training and guidance materials. www.educateagainsthate.com
		Frontline staff including governors, do not know what measures are available to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and do not know how to obtain support for people who may be exploited by radicalising influences. Staff do not access Prevent training or refresher training.	All staff attend safeguarding training and are familiar with key school safeguarding and statutory policies			Anna Bewsher		
		Staff do not access Prevent training or refresher training.	All staff attend Prevent training with a focus on Notice, Check, Share			Anna Bewsher		
			Governors attend Prevent training			Anna Bewsher		
			SLT and DSL receive additional support from local partnerships and training on local processes for Prevent		DSL is now part of local network and attends half-termly meetings	Anna Bewsher	Apr-24	
			Records of all staff and governor training maintained			Anna Bewsher		
			Refresher training takes place regularly			Anna Bewsher		
		Training is quality assured and evaluated for effectiveness on a regular basis			Anna Bewsher			

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Information Sharing	Staff do not share information with relevant partners in a timely manner.	Staff do not feel confident sharing information with partners regarding radicalisation concerns.	BPS has a culture of safeguarding that supports effective arrangements to: • identify children who may need early help or who are at risk of neglect, abuse, grooming or exploitation • help children reduce their risk of harm by securing the support they need, or referring in a timely way to those who have the expertise to help			Anna Bewsher		Resources to support information sharing The department has published guidance on making a Prevent referral. https://www.gov.uk/guidance/making-a-referral-to-prevent
		Staff are not aware of the Prevent referral process.	BPS has clear processes for raising radicalisation concerns and making a Prevent referral.			Anna Bewsher		
Reducing Permissive Environments								
Building children's resilience to radicalisation	Children and young people are exposed to intolerant or hateful narratives and lack understanding of the risks posed by terrorist organisations and extremist ideologies that underpin them.	The setting does not provide a safe space in which children and young people can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and the extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology, and learn how to challenge these ideas.	The institution has codes of conduct for all staff (teaching and non-teaching staff)			Anna Bewsher		Resources for having difficult classroom conversations Educate Against Hate has a range of resources to help teachers conduct difficult conversations with students. The 'Let's Discuss' teaching packs have been developed to help facilitate conversations about topics such as fundamental British values, extreme right-wing terrorism and Islamist extremism. www.educateagainsthate.com www.educateagainsthate.com/category/teachers/classroom-resources www.educateagainsthate.com/category/teachers/classroom-resources/filter=lets-discuss
		The setting does not teach a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes spiritual, moral, cultural mental and physical development of students and fundamental British values and community cohesion.	The institution carries out safer recruitment checks on all staff			Anna Bewsher		
			Teaching is monitored by senior leaders through observations, book checks and is quality assured			Anna Bewsher		
			The institution provides opportunities within the curriculum to discuss controversial issues and for students to develop critical thinking and digital literacy skills			Anna Bewsher		
			BPS ensures that discussions of controversial issues are carried out in a safe space.			Anna Bewsher		
			BPS embeds fundamental British values into the curriculum, while also ensuring specific discussions can take place in a safe environment.			Anna Bewsher		
IT policies	Ineffective IT policies increases the likelihood of students and staff being drawn into extremist material and narratives online. Inappropriate internet use by students is not identified or followed up.	Students can access terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet at the institution.	BPS ensures appropriate internet filtering is in place.			Anna Bewsher		Web filtering and online safety The Department for Education have issued comprehensive guidance on how schools and colleges should be using filtering and monitoring standards, including specific measures to comply with the Prevent duty. https://www.gov.uk/guidance/meeting-digital-and-technology-standards-in-schools-and-colleges/filtering-and-monitoring-standards-for-schools-and-colleges Further guidance is available at https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/teachers-and-school-staff/appropriate-filtering-and-monitoring/appropriate-monitoring You can test whether your internet service provider removes terrorist content at http://testfiltering.com/ The Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC) can provide specialist advice and support to the further and higher education sectors to help providers ensure students are safe online and appropriate safeguards are in place. Teach about online extremism The 'Going Too Far?' resource from Educate Against Hate and the London Grid for Learning to help teach students about staying safe online https://www.educateagainsthate.com/resources/going-too-far/
		Students may distribute extremist material using the institution IT system.	BPS ensures that there is a clear reporting process in place should filtering systems flag any safeguarding or Prevent- related concerns.			Anna Bewsher		
		Unclear linkages between IT policy and the Prevent duty. No consideration of filtering as a means of restricting access to harmful content.	The designated safeguarding lead takes lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection (including online safety).			Anna Bewsher		
			BPS equips children and young people with the skills to stay safe online, both in school and outside.			Anna Bewsher		
Visitors	External speakers or visitors being given a platform to radicalise children and young people or spread hateful or divisive narratives.	Leaders do not provide a safe space for children to learn.	A process is in place to manage site visitors, including sub-contractors.			Anna Bewsher		Political Impartiality Guidance When using external agencies, schools in England must be mindful of their existing duties regarding political impartiality and to ensure the balanced presentation of political issues. Guidance on this is available on GOV.UK. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/political-impartiality-in-schools/political-impartiality-in-schools#the-law
		Settings do not have clear protocols for ensuring that any visiting speakers are suitable and appropriately supervised.	The setting has a robust risk assessment and carries out due diligence checks on visitors, speakers, the organisations they represent and the materials they promote or share.			Anna Bewsher		
		The setting does not conduct any due diligence checks on visitors or the materials they may use.	The private/commercial use of the institution's spaces is effectively managed & due diligence checks are carried out on those using/booking and organisations that they represent.			Anna Bewsher		
			BPS seeks advice and support from partners where necessary to make an assessment of suitability.			Anna Bewsher		