





# Prevent Policy (SS-31)

<b>Approved by Governors:</b>	Mr A Rankin, Chair of Governors
<b>Signature:</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	12 November 2024

<b>Ratified by SLT:</b>	Mr R J King, Headteacher
<b>Signature:</b>	
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<b>Committee Responsible:</b>	Governing Board
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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation

Contact Name:

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) – Steve Milledge

Deputy Safeguarding Lead (Deputy DSL – Mandy Doyle and Sarah Johnson

Headteacher – Richard King

Designated Prevent Lead (DPL) – Steve Milledge

Where there is a risk of immediate serious harm to a child a referral should be made to children’s social Care immediately by the DSL. If a child is in immediate danger call 999.

Local Police Emergency 999

Local Police non-emergency 101

National Contacts:

NSPCC 24/7 Helpline – textline Tel: 0808 800 5000/88858

Email: [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)

DfE Prevent Helpline – for schools & parents Tel: 020 7340 7264 (non-emergency)

Email: [counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk)

National Bullying Helpline Tel: 0845 22 55 787

The current threat from Terrorism and Extremism in the United Kingdom is real and severe and can involve the exploitation of vulnerable people, including children to involve them in extremist activity.

Children and young people make up a significant proportion of Channel cases and, in recent years, there have been concerns regarding increased numbers of learners being arrested for terrorist-related offences. This policy is designed to provide guidance for staff and other young adults working with children in school to respond to safeguarding concerns for those children and young people who may be vulnerable to the messages of extremism. In addition, it provides details of the local inter-agency process and expectations in identifying appropriate interventions based on the child concern model/threshold of need and intervention model and the Channel process.

Radicalisation is defined as the process by which people come to support terrorism and extremism and, in some cases, to then participate in terrorist groups.

“Extremism is 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” (HM Government Prevent Strategy 2011).

## 2. PURPOSE

2.1 This “Preventing Radicalisation Policy” is part of our commitment to keeping children safe since the “Education and Inspections Act 2006”, schools have a duty to promote community cohesion. Over the last few years, global events have led to a growth of extremist viewpoints, including advocacy of violent extremism.

2.2 Schools have an important part to play in both educating children and young people about extremism and recognising when students start to become radicalised. From 1 July 2015, schools became subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (“CTS 2015”) in exercising their function “to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”.

- 2.3 Safeguarding children from all risks of harm is an important part of a school's work and protecting them from extremism is one aspect of that. Compliance with the Prevent duty will reflect existing good practice in safeguarding.
- 2.4 The duty to prevent children and young people being radicalised is set out in the following documents:
- Counter Terrorism & Security Act (2015)
  - Keeping Children Safe in Education (September 2024)
  - Working Together to Safeguard Children (February 2024)
  - Prevent Duty Guidance: for England and Wales (2023)
  - The Prevent Duty: Departmental Advice for Schools and Childminders (2023)
  - The Use of Social Media for On-line Radicalisation (July 2015)
- 2.5 Non-statutory guidance
- Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools: Departmental advice for maintained schools (DfE 2014)
  - Improving the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of students: supplementary information (DfE 2014)
  - How Social Media is used to encourage travel to Syria and Iraq (Home Office).

Under Cumbria's police guidance, the school's responsibility is to:

- Establish a single point of contact for Prevent.
- Assess risk of students being drawn into terrorism.
- Develop an action plan to reduce the risk.
- Train staff to recognise radicalisation and extremism.
- Refer vulnerable people to Channel and co-operate with local Channel panels.
- Prohibit extremist speakers and events.
- Manage access to extremist material.

### 3. ETHOS

3.1 We are a values-based school where we demonstrate authentic positive behaviours to our colleagues, students and stakeholders. The Prevent agenda is relevant to our value-based approach as this enables us all to safeguard vulnerable students and ensure their wellbeing. As a values-based policy this document covers:

- **Aspire** – we all strive to improve wellbeing through effective and targeted response to support vulnerable students.
- **Enjoy** – we ensure that opportunities to improve wellbeing are considered positively.
- **Include** – we ensure everyone is safe in school and in our community – whatever their needs or vulnerabilities.
- **Respect** – we ensure fairness, consistency, proportionality and transparency in our approach and promote respect for the values of law and democracy in our society.
- **Community** – we strive to understand the risks and threats to young people in our community and the importance of keeping our community safe from the threat of radicalisation and terrorism

We ensure that through our school vision, values, rules, diverse curriculum and teaching, we promote tolerance and respect for all cultures, faiths and lifestyles. The Headteacher ensures that this ethos is reflected and implemented effectively in school policy and practice and that there are effective risk assessments in place to safeguard and promote students' welfare.

The school's values of 'community' and 'respect' demonstrate our commitment to supporting and meeting the needs of our young people.

## 4. RISK ASSESSMENT

- 4.1 We assess the risk of radicalisation in our community to be low.
- 4.2 We will carry out an annual risk assessment which will identify the risk of students being drawn into terrorism or extremism. The risk assessment will be undertaken with the advice of the police and will look at the general risks affecting children and young people in the local area and the specific risks which may affect groups or individuals within the school and it will propose measures to mitigate and manage these risks.

## 5. RESPONSIBILITIES AND TRAINING

- 5.1 The Designated Prevent Lead will liaise regularly with the Head and the Governors on matters relating to the Prevent duty and will monitor the school's compliance with this duty through training and updates from the Designated Safeguarding Lead Network meetings. As part of this process the Designated Prevent Lead will:
  - 5.1.1 ensure that this policy is understood and effectively implemented by staff throughout the school;
  - 5.1.2 ensure that the School's Prevent policies and procedures and general safeguarding arrangements take into account the policies and procedures of the Cumbria Safeguarding Children's Partnership (CSCP).
  - 5.2.1 be the single point of contact to oversee and coordinate the school's implementation of the Prevent duty;
  - 5.2.2 undertake regular prevent awareness training, which is refreshed at least every two years;
  - 5.2.3 undertake training to be able to assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorism, including being drawn into support for the extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology;
  - 5.2.4 provide Prevent duty training to all staff so that they (a) understand the general risks affecting students at the school; (b) are able to identify individual children who might be at risk of radicalisation; and (c) know what to do to support these children. The Prevent lead will give consideration to the appropriateness and reliability of training resources using advice on the government website Educate Against Hate ([Educate Against Hate – Prevent Radicalisation & Extremism](#));
  - 5.2.5 Provide advice and support to other members of staff on protecting students from the risk of radicalisation;
  - 5.2.6 liaise with local partners, including the Police and the CSCP, to establish what advice and support they can provide and to seek guidance on the general levels of risk within the local area;
  - 5.2.7 have responsibility for ensuring that any visiting speakers whether invited by staff or students are suitable and are appropriately supervised (see below);
  - 5.2.8 receive safeguarding concerns about children and young people who may be vulnerable;
  - 5.2.9 work in partnership with the CSCP on all matters covered by this policy and the School will follow any locally agreed procedures which are set out by the CSCP;
  - 5.2.10 report to the Head Teach and Governors on these matters.

- 5.3 All staff will:
- 5.3.1 undergo regular Prevent duty training so that staff have the knowledge and confidence to be able to
- (a) understand the general risks of radicalisation affecting students at the school;
  - (b) identify individual children who might be at risk of radicalisation (see Paragraph 9 below) and spot signs of extremism (see Paragraph 10 below);
  - (c) challenge extremist views; and
  - (d) provide appropriate advice to children who are at risk of radicalisation.
- 5.3.2 be alert to changes in children's behaviour which could indicate that they may need help or protection;
- 5.3.3 use their professional judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately.

## 6. REFERRAL PROCESS

- 6.1 All staff and visitors to the School must refer all concerns about children and young people who show signs of vulnerability to radicalisation to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or in their absence to the Deputy Safeguarding Lead (Deputy DSL). For further details about safeguarding referrals please see the School's Child Protection Procedures.
- 6.2 If the DSL becomes aware of a concern relating to the radicalisation of a student the DSL will discuss this with the Head and the CSCP so that appropriate actions can be taken to safeguard the student and appropriate referrals, including to the Channel programme, can be made including the use of the Prevent national referral form [Get help for radicalisation concerns – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk).

## 7. CURRICULUM

- 7.1 We are committed to ensuring that our students are offered a broad and balanced curriculum that aims to prepare them for life in modern Britain. We encourage our students to be inquisitive learners who are open to new experiences and are tolerant of others.
- 7.2 Our values support the development of the whole child as a reflective learner within a calm, caring, happy and purposeful atmosphere. Teaching the school's core values alongside the fundamental British Values supports quality teaching and learning, whilst making a positive contribution to the development of a fair, just and civil society. These values will help to build resilience to radicalisation and extremism.
- 7.3 We aim to provide a safe space in which students can understand the risks associated with terrorism and develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to be able to challenge extremist views. In doing so we are mindful of our existing duties on political impartiality and ensure the balanced presentation of political issues ([Political impartiality in schools – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)).
- 7.4 We will include opportunities in the curriculum for students to build resilience to pressure and to develop the skills they need to recognise and stay safe from abuse and radicalisation, in particular:
- 7.4.1 PD lessons will be used along with form periods to teach students to understand and manage risks associated with terrorism and extremism and radicalisation, resist pressure, make safer choices and seek help if necessary.

- 7.4.2 By promoting British values such as tolerance and respect as indicated above.
- 7.4.3 Through citizenship, religious education and other relevant subject syllabus with focus on democracy, diversity, mutual respect and managing debates around contentious issues.

## 8. INTERNET SAFETY

- 8.1 The internet provides children and young people with access to a wide-range of content, some of which is harmful. Extremists use the internet, including social media, to share their messages. The filtering systems in our school blocks inappropriate content, including extremist content.
- 8.2 Students will be taught how to stay safe online, both in school and outside school. They will be taught to understand the risks posed by adults or young people who use the internet and social media to groom, abuse or radicalise other people, especially children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- 8.3 We also filter out social media, such a Facebook. Searches and web addresses are monitored and the Smoothwall and the IT team will alert the DSL the Head where there are concerns and prevent further access when new sites that are unblocked are found.
- 8.4 Where staff, students or visitors find unblocked extremist content they must report it to the DSL who will in turn discuss it with the Head.
- 8.5 We are aware that children and young people have access to unfiltered internet when using their mobile phones and staff are alert to the need for vigilance when students are using their mobile phones or other electronic devices.

## 9. VISITORS AND VISITING SPEAKERS

- 9.1 The DSL has responsibility for ensuring that all visitors and visiting speakers, whether invited by staff or students, are suitable and appropriately supervised. Where appropriate the DSL will make enquiries of the agency/person who introduced the individual to the School and/or will undertake appropriate due diligence.
- 9.2 On the rare occasion that a visitor or visiting speaker will have unsupervised access to students they will need to be enhanced DBS checked.

## 10. SIGNS OF VULNERABILITY

- 10.1 There are no known definitive indicators that a young person is vulnerable to radicalisation, but there are a number of signs that together increase the risk. Signs of vulnerability include but are not limited to:
- underachievement;
  - being in possession of extremist literature;
  - poverty;
  - social exclusion;
  - traumatic events;
  - global or national events;
  - religious conversation;
  - change in behaviour;
  - extremist influences;
  - conflict with family over lifestyle;
  - confused identity;
  - victim or witness to race or hate crimes; and
  - rejection by peers, family, social and faith groups.

## 11. RECOGNISING EXTREMISM

- 11.1 A part of our wide safeguarding responsibilities to identify signs of abuse we will be alert to early indicators of radicalisation or extremism which may include:
- showing sympathy for extremist causes;
  - glorifying violence;
  - making remarks or comments about being at extremist events or rallies outside school;
  - evidence of possession of illegal or extremist literature;
  - advocating messages similar to those coming from illegal organisations or other extremist groups;
  - out of character changes in dress, behaviour and peer relationships (but there are also very powerful narratives, programmes and networks that young people can come across online so involvement with particular groups may not seem apparent);
  - secretive behaviour;
  - online searches or sharing extremist messages or social profiles;
  - intolerance of difference, including faith, culture, gender, race or sexuality;
  - graffiti, art work or writing that displays extremist themes;
  - attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others;
  - advocating violence towards others.

## 12. CONTACT DETAILS

- 12.1 Contact details of local partners and organisations which offer support and advice about extremism will be displayed prominently in the School.
- 12.2 These will include the local authority Prevent lead, the local Channel contact and the local Police force, 101 and the DfE dedicated telephone helpline and mailbox for non-emergency advice for staff:
- 020 7340 7264 and [counter-extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:counter-extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk)

## 13. CHANNEL

- 13.1 Channel is a programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. 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.
- 13.2 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.
- 13.3 Section 38 of the CTSA 2015 requires partners of Channel to cooperate with the panel in the carrying out of its functions and with the police in providing information about a referred individual.
- 13.4 Guidance issued under section 36(7) and section 38(6) of the CTSA February 2021 in respect of Channel is available at:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/channel-guidance>



## 14. MONITORING AND REVIEW

- 14.1 This Policy will be reviewed by the Head and the DSL annually.
- 14.2 The effectiveness and implementation of this policy will be monitored by the DSL who will carry an annual review for this purpose. For further information see the School's separate policy on Safeguarding. The DSL will meet with the Chair of the Governors' Safeguarding and Welfare Committee for quality assurance during the course of each academic year.

### Related Policies

- Attendance Policy
- Equality & Diversity Policy
- School Behaviour Policy
- Child Protection Policy & Procedures
- Safeguarding: Procedures for Dealing with Allegations of Abuse Against Teachers & Other Staff
- Safeguarding: Safer Recruitment Policy & Procedures
- Safeguarding: Code of Conduct for School Based Staff
- Whistleblowing Policy
- Lost or Missing Children Policy
- Acceptable use of IT Policy
- PD Policy

### Action Plan:

Establish a single point of contact for Prevent	The DSL is the Prevent Lead in School.
Assess risk of students being drawn into terrorism	The DSL liaises with Police and the CSCP through the DSL Network to establish the local level of risk on a regular basis
Develop an action plan to reduce the risk. Train staff to recognise radicalisation and extremism.	The DSL ensures that staff are trained in Prevent on induction and receive regular updates.
Refer vulnerable people to Channel.	The DSL ensures that through the CPOMS referral system and through regular supervision of the safeguarding team, that student concerns are monitored and referred to Channel where appropriate.
Prohibit extremist speakers and events. Manage access to extremist material.	The DSL ensures through the Child Protection policy and procedures that visiting speakers are vetted and monitored by senior members of staff and, through the Online Safety policy, that the school's IT system prevents students accessing dangerous content.

**Headteacher:**  
Mr R J King BSc

**Chair of Governors:**  
Mr A Rankin

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