



## Prevent Duty Extremism Screening Tool

### SCREENING TOOL COMPLETION INSTRUCTIONS

This screening tool must be completed by referrers who have contacted CASS regarding concerns about a child or young person (CYP) that include issues of harmful extremist beliefs and/or extremist behaviours. The Request for Support Form must also be completed and both documents must be forwarded to CASS.

It is critical The Request for Support Form is still completed as this covers the wider concerns and protective factors around the CYP and the family which are not covered in this screening tool. CASS Advisors together with social workers and team managers will use the information contained in both documents to decide the level of risk involved and the relevant support required by the CYP and family.

Birmingham children's practitioners will share relevant referrals with extremism concerns with the Police who will decide when this needs to be passed onto Prevent; you do not need to contact Police or Prevent.

There are three sets of risk indicators included in the screening – high, medium and low. A case may involve risks at all three levels; please indicate all relevant risks; your answers do not need to be confined to one level of risk.

It is **very important** you describe the **evidence** you have observed for each risk you have ticked in the summary of evidence boxes following each set of risk indicators. Please provide as much background information as possible to enable Birmingham Children's Trust to make informed decisions. **If this section is not completed, the form will be returned to you** to be completed. If the screening tool is not fully completed we will contact you to discuss to get a full picture.

Please link the concerns you are raising in this screening tool to the relevant section on concerns in the Request for Support Form to provide an overall picture of need. Also think about protective factors that are in place around the CYP and family reducing the harm related to extremist concerns.

You can access information on proscribed terrorist groups or organisations that are banned under UK law from [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

You can access government advice on international travel from [www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice](https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice). Additionally, local guidance along with the relevant form for international travel requests can be accessed [here](#).

Report online material which promotes terrorism or extremism via the Home Office website.



**PART ONE – RISK INDICATORS**

**HIGH RISK INDICATORS**

<b>High Risk Indicators</b>	<b>Tick</b>
Plans to travel to a conflict zone; or unexplained and/or sudden plans to travel to a country from which you can travel to a conflict zone	
Demonstrates support for and/or is articulating extreme views that are of significant harm to themselves or others, and may refuse to acknowledge other viewpoints	
Is living with someone who has a conviction against the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 – known as TACT Offences	
Is in contact with, is being influenced by, and/or shows support for individuals, groups, or organisations that are known to hold harmful extreme views and/or undertake harmful acts based on those views; this includes family members	
Participation in an activity that might cause immediate harm to themselves or others based on them holding extreme views, e.g. a violent attack against others	
Has disengaged from wider activities and interests and become fixated with a particular issue, viewpoint or way of living that is unhealthy and harmful to the CYP, and/or others	
Is accessing and/or sharing material of an extremist nature that is of significant harm to themselves and/or others e.g. that contains violent or disturbing images; that encourages people to undertake violent acts, etc.	
Is spending time with unknown individuals that raises concern, including potential religious or sexual grooming	

**HIGH RISK SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE –**

**Please summarise what evidence you have regarding the high risks indicators you have ticked above. Please also outline what strengths are present in supporting the family with these risks. This section must be completed if you have indicated a risk/s above.**



**MEDIUM RISK INDICATORS**

Medium Risk Indicators	Tick
Demonstrates support for and/or is articulating extreme views that are/may be of harm to themselves or others, and finds it difficult to acknowledge other viewpoints	
Is showing interest in, and may have contact with individuals, groups, or organisations that are known to hold harmful extreme views and/or undertake harmful acts based on those views; this includes family members	
Is starting to disengage with wider activities and interests and spending more time focusing on a particular issue, viewpoint or way of living that may be unhealthy and harmful to the CYP or others	
Is isolated from family, friends, peer and peer groups and/or is not forthcoming about how and who they spend their spare time with	
Is accessing and/or sharing material of an extremist nature that is harmful to themselves and/or others  e.g. that encourages people to develop harmful views about others that encourages people to isolate themselves and narrow their viewpoints, etc.	
Has mental health concerns or developmental disorders (e.g. ASD) that make the CYP vulnerable to developing extreme views that are harmful to themselves or others	
Has alcohol and/or substance abuse issues that makes the CYP vulnerable to developing extreme views that are harmful to themselves or others	
Is at risk from harmful cultural practices. Please state the type of risk e.g. FGM, Forced Marriage, removal from education, honour based violence, abuse linked to faith or belief, etc.	

**MEDIUM RISKSUMMARY OF EVIDENCE –**

**Please summarise what evidence you have regarding the medium risk indicators you have ticked above. Please also outline what strengths are present in supporting the family with these risks. This section must be completed if you have indicated a risk/s above.**



**LOW RISK INDICATORS**

<b>Low Risk Indicators</b>	<b>Tick</b>
Is struggling with their own identity, sense of belonging and/or may feel out of place in wider society	
A change in CYP's views, appearance, behaviour and wellbeing that starts to raise concern	
Is easily lead by others making them susceptible to influence	
Is becoming isolated from family, friends, peer and peer groups	

**LOW RISKSUMMARY OF EVIDENCE –**

**Please summarise what evidence you have regarding the low risk indicators you have ticked above. Please also outline what strengths are present in supporting the family with these risks. This section must be completed if you have indicated a risk/s above.**

**PART TWO – ADDITIONAL CONTEXTUAL QUESTIONS**

**1. Has the CYP experienced any significant life events or trauma that may be linked to the current risks?**

**2. Is there any additional information you would like to provide which is not covered by the risk indicators that you think indicates an extremism concern?**



**OVERALL RISK RATING**

**Please indicate the overall level of risk you believe is present in this case in terms of the extremism and wider concerns identified:**

- High
- Medium
- Low

**Please briefly summarise why you feel the risks in this case are high, medium or low:**

**NOTE:**

Referrers should be aware that working with extremism concerns is a developing area of practice in social work. As such the above indicators may change as more is understood about risks of extremism and how to work with CYP on these issues.

**[End of screening tool]**



## Prevent Duty Extremism Assessment Guidance

The aim of this guidance is to provide children's practitioners with an explorative set of questions to assess the nature of extremism concerns being presented by a child or young person (CYP) and their family.

There is not a separate assessment form to complete for cases with extremism concerns. Practitioners are asked to consider the questions below to help them explore and articulate the extremist concerns in the case. Practitioners' responses to these questions should be included in the assessment tool being used be that the Early Help Assessment or the Family Assessment. This should draw on the Signs of Safety methodology focusing on: concerns, strengths and what needs to happen.

Practitioners should include the information they have gathered from answering the enclosed extremism questions in whatever section of the Early Help or Family Assessment they feel is most appropriate. For example information concerning a family member's own extremist views may be included in sections on family background.

You can access information on proscribed terrorist groups or organisations that are banned under UK law from [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

You can access government advice on international travel from [www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice](https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice).

If you need help to understand the nature of the extremism risk presented or the level of risk posed contact:

Colvin White, Early Help - Prevent Lead, 0121 303 9905 / 07920 088 512,  
[colvin.white@birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk](mailto:colvin.white@birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk).

Maria Jardine, Head of Service – Early Help and Family Support, Operational Lead for Extremism, [maria.jardine@birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk](mailto:maria.jardine@birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk), 077680 25323.

**If you are the lead family support or social worker for a case with extremist concerns you should contact the Early Help & Children's Social Care Channel Link Representatives above as soon as you are allocated the case to discuss whether it needs to be referred to Channel.**



## **Assessment Questions**

### **1. Relationships and Networks**

Practitioners should consider the CYP's family, friends and other individuals they have contact with, and any extremism risks they might pose, as well as the protective factors these people provide:

- How wide is the CYP's network of friends and family? Does the CYP have contact with a limited or a variety of views and actions/behaviours? If they are limited, what are the potential reasons why they are limited? Does it seem to be impacting negatively on the CYP and how?
- Does the CYP have a strong network of friends and family who will protect them from potential harm caused by extremist views or actions/behaviours? Does the CYP and their family have contact with a range of services, organisations or groups that meet any needs they have? Is the family isolated? Is the family willing to engage with services?
- Is the CYP well-connected or isolated from their family and peers? Have they experienced rejection? Do they have insecure and/or conflicted relationships?
- Do the CYP's carers, family, friends or people they are connected with, demonstrate extremist views and/or actions/behaviours that might be harmful to the CYP?
- Do the CYP's carers, family, friends or other people they have contact with, have convictions under the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 – known as TACT Offences? What is the nature of these? Do they indicate the individual/s may pose harm to the CYP? How much contact does the CYP have with them and how influential are they?
- Is the CYP linked with individuals, groups or organisations that are known to hold harmful views and/or demonstrate harmful actions/behaviours? What is the nature of the CYP's contact with them? Does this pose harm to them and others?
- Is the CYP spending time with people who are unknown to their other friends and family? Are they willing to talk about who these people are and how they met them?

### **2. Views and Behaviour**

Practitioners should consider the CYP's views and behaviour, and any indications of harm arising from these, as well as strengths that might counteract risks:

- Is the CYP causing them or others harm by articulating extreme views and/or by demonstrating harmful actions/behaviours based on those views? What are they and what is the impact? Does the CYP understand the harm that could be caused?
- Have the CYP and/or family travelled to or have plans to travel to a conflict zone, or have unexplained or sudden plans to travel to a country from which you can travel to a conflict zone?
- Is the CYP particularly closed in their views? How have they developed their views? Do the CYP's views reflect normal developmental processes we would expect to see in CYP of their age?
- Does the CYP believe violence is justified to defend or support their ideology? Are they actively promoting their views amongst others?



- Is the CYP receiving a balanced education, providing insights into different viewpoints, religions, faiths and cultures? Do they happily engage with people from other backgrounds? Do they express polarised views and cannot appreciate other perspectives?
- Is the CYP accessing material (pictures, videos, text, etc.) that may be harmful to them and/or others around them? Is it age appropriate? How are they accessing it? Do they have unsupervised internet access? Why is the CYP accessing the material? Do they understand the harm it could cause?
- Do the CYP's views and/or actions/behaviours represent understandable reactions to the CYP's experiences, or the experiences of those around them? Has the CYP experienced inequality, deprivation, conflict, discrimination, harm or other issues, leading to a grievance that may lead them to cause harm to them or others? Do they feel victimised or targeted (by society, authorities, etc.)?
- Is the CYP struggling to understand their position or identity in society? Is this leading to isolation or a feeling they do not belong? Is it making them vulnerable to harmful viewpoints, groups or individuals that might offer them an identity?
- Does the CYP have a history of crime? Does it make them vulnerable to extremist concerns?

### **3. Wellbeing - Mental Health and Substance Misuse**

Practitioners should consider the CYP's overall wellbeing and whether they have any vulnerabilities making them more open to risk from extremism concerns:

- Does the CYP have mental health issues, development disorders, challenging behaviours and/or are they using substances and/or alcohol? Is this making them vulnerable to extremist views and/or actions/behaviours? For example, does it make them vulnerable to:
  - Developing and articulating harmful views or undertaking harmful actions/behaviours?
  - Becoming unhealthily fixated with particular issues? For example, spending a lot of time alone researching this issue and connecting with individuals/groups via the internet.
  - Spending time with people who hold views or demonstrate actions/behaviours that might be harmful to the CYP, and who may seek to influence the CYP in a way that is harmful to them and others?
- Is the CYP aware of their mental health, or development issues, and how this may make them vulnerable to harmful views or actions/behaviours)? Is the CYP aware of the impact of substance and/or alcohol use and how this may make them vulnerable to harmful views or actions/behaviours?
- Has the CYP changed recently and/or suddenly? What was the trigger? Have they experienced a trauma now or in the past that might explain a change in their views and/or actions/behaviours?
- How open is the CYP about their life and their interests? Who do they spend time with? What do they do with their spare time? Are there any indications of 'grooming', such as



new possessions that cannot have been obtained by the CYP independently? Are they easily led by others? Do they seem 'themselves' to those around them?

- Is there any evidence of forced marriage, FGM, trafficking, removal from education, honour based violence, or abuse linked to faith or belief?

#### **4. History of Extremism Concerns**

- Have there been previous 'extremism' concerns in relation to this CYP and/or their family? Have there been previous child protection concerns that might be related to the current extremism concerns?
- What were the concerns? Have these changed? What support was provided? How effective was this? How well did the CYP and family engage? When and why did the support finish?

#### **NOTE:**

Practitioners should be aware that working with extremism concerns is a developing area of practice in social work. As such the above questions may change as more is understood about the risks of extremism and how to work with CYP on these issues.

**[End of assessment questions]**



**Prevent Duty  
Extremism Concerns – Right Help Right Time**

To support children's practitioners in establishing the level of risk related to extremist concerns, some of the key indicators of extremism have been mapped against the Right Help Right Time framework below. This is a guide only, but may be helpful for practitioners in thinking about the varying levels of risk involved when extremism risks are present.

Universal	Universal Plus	Additional	Complex and Significant
CYP demonstrates an interest in multiple viewpoints	CYP is showing an <b>interest</b> in extreme <b>views that may cause them harm</b> and is becoming less engaged in wider views and interests	<b>CYP</b> demonstrates extreme <b>views that are causing</b> harm to themselves or others, and refuses to acknowledge other viewpoints	<b>CYP</b> demonstrates extreme <b>views that are causing significant harm</b> to themselves or others
CYP is involved in a range of activities	CYP is showing an <b>interest</b> in extreme <b>actions or behaviour that may cause them harm</b> and is reducing involvement in wider activities	CYP demonstrates extreme <b>actions or behaviour that is causing</b> harm to themselves or others	CYP demonstrates extreme <b>actions or behaviour that are causing significant harm</b> to themselves or others
CYP's carers, family and close contacts have and encourage the CYP to have a healthy interest in a range of views and behaviours	There are <b>indications</b> the CYP's <b>carer/s, family or close contacts</b> hold <b>extreme views</b> and/or <b>actions/behaviours that may cause harm</b> to the CYP	The CYP's <b>carer/s, family or close contacts</b> are demonstrating extreme <b>views</b> and/or <b>actions/behaviours that is causing harm</b> to the CYP	The CYP's <b>carer/s, family or close contacts</b> are demonstrating extreme <b>views</b> and/or <b>actions/behaviours that are causing significant harm</b> to the CYP
CYP has a healthy interest in a range of views and behaviours	CYP has a healthy interest in a range of views and behaviours	The <b>CYP</b> is showing <b>interest or is in contact</b> with <b>people</b> demonstrating <b>extreme views</b> and/or <b>actions/behaviours that is causing harm</b> to the CYP	The <b>CYP</b> has close <b>relationships</b> with <b>people</b> demonstrating <b>extreme views</b> and/or <b>actions/behaviours that are causing significant harm</b> to the CYP



## Family Group Conferences

Birmingham CSC has a Family Group Conferencing (FGC) Service who can offer this approach to families, giving them the opportunity to identify their own solutions to concerns that have been identified. FGCs aim to empower families and to draw on the strengths of immediate and wider family members and friends to support the CYPs and the wider family's needs.

The method includes preparation meetings with family members and practitioners and planning for a FGC. The FGC is held in 3 parts:

1. The FGC brings together the CYP, family network and involved practitioners. The initial part of the meeting involves the family, the allocated worker and, any other professionals that the family choose to invite during which the issues identified in the assessment are presented and discussed. The family are encouraged to raise questions during this session and to clarify what the worker is worried about in respect of the child/ren.
2. The family then have private family time to consider the issues identified and to develop a plan that addresses the support needs of the CYP and the family.
3. The family and practitioners come back together to discuss the family's plan, and if it addresses the concerns raised by the professionals, the plan is agreed.

If you think a case allocated to you involving extremist concerns has the potential to benefit from a Family Group Conference arrangements for this should be made with the Duty Team. Guidance on FGCs can be accessed [here](#).

## Working with Children and Families

To support CYP and their families effectively we need to fully understand the concerns from their perspectives and their life experiences. The tools in this guidance are designed to complement the **Signs of Safety approach** in the Request for Support Form, supporting practitioners to answer questions about what is going well, concerns and what needs to happen next.

- **The Three Houses** exercise will also support children's practitioners to more fully understand and appreciate the CYP's perspective.
- **Signs of Safety Resources** can be accessed at: [www.lscbbirmingham.org.uk/index.php/early-help/signs-of-safety-and-wellbeing/toolkit](http://www.lscbbirmingham.org.uk/index.php/early-help/signs-of-safety-and-wellbeing/toolkit)
- Other resources for working with children is accessible through the BCT Academy at <https://practicetools.org/> Sign of Safety.
- **Educate Against Hate** provides information for developing resilience to online radicalisation/extremism): <http://www.educateagainsthate.com/>



- **Channel Panel Awareness** online resources: [http://course.ncalt.com/Channel\\_General\\_Awareness](http://course.ncalt.com/Channel_General_Awareness)
- **Introduction to Prevent E-Learning Package:** <https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/screen2>.
- **Since911** curriculum centred resources: <https://since911.com/education-programme>.
- See **TLDS Practice Tools** – SOS and other resources for working with children.
- **Report online material promoting terrorism or extremism:** <https://www.gov.uk/report-terrorism> (includes illegal or harmful information, pictures or videos found on the internet). Reports can be submitted anonymously.

### **Advice to Local Authorities – Safeguarding Children Returning to the UK from Syria**

This advice offers help for local authorities to take the right actions to support British children who return to the UK from Syria in order to reintegrate them with their families, schools and local communities.

Where the FCO becomes aware of the impending return of a British child to the UK from Syria, their Child Protection Unit<sup>2</sup> (which includes a UK-qualified Social Work Adviser) will notify the Birmingham Children's Trust or the relevant children's social care in the most appropriate local authority.

On arrival in the UK, Counter Terrorism Ports Police officers will likely use their powers under Schedule 7 of the Terrorism Act 2000 to stop any individuals (including children) if they are identified as returning from Syria.

An assessment of the risk and protective factors for the child, as set out in *Working Together to Safeguard Children*, should be undertaken.

Catch22 are available to help any UK family with children that returns from Syria, regardless of the threshold for a statutory intervention, and will be able to:

- Help facilitate communication with different local services and agencies;
- Help the family access support to which they are entitled;
- Sign up the children to local schools and GP services;
- Represent the child in any meetings about their welfare;
- Work intensively with the family over the longer term to encourage a protective environment for children and reintegration into the community.



## **Desistence and Disengagement Programme (DDP)**

DDP was launched as a pilot in autumn 2016, focusing on those convicted of terrorism, or terrorism-related offences, who have served their custodial sentences and are due to be released on licence. The programme has since expanded to include additional strands of work supporting Terrorist Prevention & Investigation Measures (TPIMs) and Temporary Exclusion Orders (TEOs) etc.

## **Support and Services for Extremism Concerns**

### **Channel Support**

Channel is a multi-agency partnership helping to safeguard individuals who are vulnerable to radicalisation, regardless of faith, ethnicity or background. This is similar to the way in which individuals at risk from involvement in crime, drugs and other social issues are supported. By providing support to those most at risk, they can be diverted away from potential threats that might draw them into criminal activity.

Channel has access to a variety of support packages and interventions appropriate in working with risks of extremism that include:

- Mentoring support providing personal guidance including addressing extremist ideologies, religious interpretations
- Developing life and social skills, for example dealing with peer pressure
- Anger management sessions
- Cognitive behavioural therapy to support attitudes and behaviours
- Constructive leisure activities
- Education and training activities
- Careers focused activities
- Family support including relationships and skills work
- Support with physical and/or mental health
- Housing support
- Drug and alcohol support

The above list is not exhaustive, and a combination of the above alongside other support may often be required.

Providers of support can include statutory and community partners. The Channel multi-agency panel is responsible for ensuring delivery of the overall package of support for Channel cases.

For more information on how to access support via Channel contact:  
Waqar Ahmed - Prevent Manager, 0121 303 7682 / 07557 203290  
[waqar.ahmed@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:waqar.ahmed@birmingham.gov.uk).



### **Community Support**

There is a **Community Safeguarding Panel in Birmingham** made up of community organisations the Council and Children's Trust has experience of working with and who can provide support in cases where there are extremist concerns. This includes specialist mentoring support for children and young people on views and beliefs, as well as other issues such as diversionary activities and domestic abuse. To find out more and to request support from the Panel please contact:

Colvin White, Early Help Prevent Lead, 0121 3039905 / 07920 088512

[colvin.white@birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk](mailto:colvin.white@birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk)

There are a number of other community organisations that also provide support. Community or non-statutory partners providing support to vulnerable people need to be credible and understand the local community.

Practitioners should make the necessary checks to be assured of the suitability of support providers; including DBS checks for those seeking to work with young people and vulnerable adults.

### **Support for Schools**

If you are working with a school that needs help to develop their curriculum activities to address Prevent and extremism concerns contact:

Razia Butt, Resilience Officer, 0121 464 7739 / 07956878288

[razia.butt@birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk](mailto:razia.butt@birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk)

### **Community Engagement**

Supporting communities and civic organisation engage in the intervention and resilience work to enable inclusion and facilitate community action

### **Engagement**

Rahila Mann, Prevent Community Engagement, Officer 0121 303 6455

[rahila.mann@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:rahila.mann@birmingham.gov.uk)

### **Youth Services**

Habib Ullah, Prevent Youth Engagement office, 0121 464 5057 / 07548 712862

[habib.ullah@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:habib.ullah@birmingham.gov.uk)



### Prevent Referrals and the Channel Pathway

