



# PREVENT duty

## All school staff need to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”

**What is Prevent?** The core mission of Prevent is **stopping people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism**. The early intervention support provided by Prevent addresses the personal, ideological, and social factors which make people more susceptible to radicalisation.

**Extremism** is a 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.

**Radicalisation** refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

### Spotting the signs of radicalisation

Radicalisation can be really difficult to spot. Signs that may indicate a child is being radicalised include:

- Change in behaviour
- Isolating themselves from family and friends or changing their circle of friends
- Talking as if from a scripted speech
- Unwillingness or inability to discuss their views
- A sudden disrespectful attitude towards others
- Increased levels of anger
- Increased secretiveness, especially around internet use
- Accessing extremist material online
- Talking about a new role model or their views
- Displaying a new symbol/ logo or creating writing/artwork that promotes violent or extremist messages

Children who are at risk of radicalisation may have low self-esteem, or be victims of bullying or discrimination. Extremists might target them and tell them they can be part of something special, later brainwashing them into cutting themselves off from their friends and family.

**What is a Prevent referral?** A Prevent referral can be made by anyone who is concerned that they, or someone they know, is susceptible to radicalisation or might be at risk of becoming involved in terrorism or supporting terrorism. This should be reported to the DSL immediately. If an individual is found to represent a security threat, they will always be referred to the police for further investigation. Prevent referrals are not made to the Home Office; they are **handled by expert officers in the local police force**.

### **Making a referral**

#### Reporting

**If any member of staff in a school has a concern about a particular pupil they should follow the school’s normal safeguarding procedures, including discussing with the school’s designated safeguarding lead immediately.**

The DSL will decide upon the appropriate channel of reporting which may be Doncaster Children’s Social Care on 01302 737777.

The local authority Prevent lead can also provide support. In Doncaster, this is Rachael Long, Crime and Community Safety Theme Manager, 01302 737469 or email [Rachael.Long@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:Rachael.Long@doncaster.gov.uk).

You can also contact your local police force or dial 101 to speak to the Police Prevent Team. They can talk to you in confidence about your concerns and help you gain access to support and advice.

The Department for Education has dedicated a telephone helpline (020 7340 7264) to enable staff and governors to raise concerns relating to extremism directly.

Concerns can also be raised by email to [counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk). Please note that the helpline is not intended for use in emergency situations, such as a child being at immediate risk of harm or a security incident, in which case the normal emergency procedures should be followed.

National police Prevent advice line on 0800 011 3764 to discuss concerns.

Prevent email: prevent\_inbox@southyorks.pnn.police.uk

Head of Service, Doncaster Community Safety 01302 737831

Out of hours emergency 999 or non-emergency 101.

**What is Channel?** If the referral progresses and it is assessed that there is a genuine risk of radicalisation, the case is considered by a multi-agency 'Channel panel' of professionals who collectively assess the case and decide on a tailored package of support that can be offered to the person.

The Channel panel is chaired by the local authority and can include a variety of partners such as the police, children's services, social services, education professionals and mental health care professionals.

## National update:

Prevent referrals have increased by 30% since the end of COVID

Of these referrals:

- 33% were related to individuals with a vulnerability present but no ideology or CT risk
- 20% to Extreme Right-Wing
- 16% regarding Islamist radicalisation
- 2% to concerns regarding school massacres,
- 1% of concerns were incel-related.

### **IT COULD HAPPEN HERE!**

Contextual safeguarding: extreme right-wing radicalisation is a threat in our community.

For further information regarding the prevent duty, scan for access to educate against hate website as recommended by the Prevent and Channel fact sheet 2023

