



PREVENTING RADICALISATION POLICY

Last Updated

June 2023

THE KING ALFRED SCHOOL PREVENTING RADICALISATION POLICY

This policy should be read in conjunction with

- Safeguarding Children in Education Policy
- Visiting Speakers Policy

The King Alfred Safeguarding policy includes the duty to promote British values in order to counter the extremist narrative and prevent young people from being radicalised and drawn into terrorism. Children are vulnerable to extremist ideology and radicalisation.

DEFINITIONS

Radicalisation refers to the process by which a young person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism.

Extremism is the vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

Terrorism is an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people; causes serious damage to property; or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause.

There is no single way of identifying whether a child is likely to be susceptible to an extremist ideology. Background factors combined with specific influences such as family and friends **may contribute to a child's vulnerability**. Similarly, radicalisation can occur through many different methods (such as social media or the internet) and settings (such as within the home).

It is possible to protect vulnerable people from extremist ideology and intervene to prevent those at risk of radicalisation **being radicalised**. Staff should be alert to changes in children's behaviour and use their judgement in identifying children who may be at risk and act proportionately which may include the DSL making a Prevent referral.

POTENTIAL INDICATORS

- Vulnerability: Identity crisis, personal crisis, personal circumstances, unmet aspirations, criminality.
- Access to extremism: Association with individuals or groups known to be involved in extremism, accessing the internet to contact groups associated with extremism or material promoting extremism, contact with extremist organisations or training, involvement in distributing extremist material, involvement in demonstrations or fund-raising for extremist causes, evidence of sympathy with extremist groups and/or views.
- Experiences, Behaviours and Influences: Peer, social, family or faith group rejection. Evidence of extremist ideological, political or religious influence on the child. Personal and emotional impact on the child of international events in areas of conflict or civil unrest leading to the development of extremist views. Significant shifts in the child's conduct to suggest new social influences. Conflict with family or school over beliefs, lifestyle, dress, choices. Evidence of support (verbal or written) for terrorist acts or extremist groups/views. Has the child witnessed, or been the victim of, racial or religious hate crime or sectarianism?

- Travel: Is there a pattern of travel within/outside the UK for the purposes of extremist activity? Has the child travelled for extended periods of time to locations associated with extremist activity? Has the child ever sought to disguise their true identity?
- Social Factors: Experience of poverty, disadvantage, discrimination or social exclusion, Lack of meaningful employment or engagement appropriate to their skills. A lack of affinity with others or social exclusion from their peer groups. Learning difficulties or mental health needs. A simplistic or flawed understanding of religion or politics. Involvement with crime. A foreign national, refugee or awaiting a decision on their immigration status. Insecure, conflicted or absent family relationships. A significant adult **in the child's life who has extremist views or sympathies.**
- Behaviours that could indicate radicalisation:
 - Becoming increasingly argumentative
 - Unwilling to engage with students who are different
 - Abusive to students who are different
 - Embracing conspiracy theories

STATUTORY PREVENT DUTY OBLIGATIONS

King Alfred School acknowledges that, under the Prevent Duty (June 2015) the school has a duty:

- To continually assess the susceptibility of our pupils being radicalised or drawn into terrorism.
- To build our obligations under the Prevent duty into our existing local safeguarding partnerships, policy and processes.
- To raise the awareness of staff, through appropriate training, so that they are equipped to identify children susceptible of being drawn into terrorism and to challenge extremist ideas.
- To ensure that our school IT systems are safe and protected from terrorists and/or terrorism via robust filtering and monitoring systems which will block harmful and inappropriate content.
- To ensure all pupils will be taught about online safety.

PREVENT DUTY REFERRAL PROCESS

Where a member of staff has concerns that a young person might be considering extremist ideologies and/or may be radicalised or would benefit from specialist support to challenge extremist ideologies they should contact with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) without delay.

The DSL and Pastoral staff will discuss these concerns and will consider seeking external advice and guidance where necessary and appropriate. They will refer young people on to Barnet's Channel Panel under the local Prevent Duty strategy. Referrals to Channel are voluntary and require the students consent.

Barnet's Senior Community Safety Policy Officer and their team can be contacted for advice prior to making a formal referral. Formal Prevent referrals will be submitted according to the guidance offered by Barnet, and other local authorities, and King Alfred will contribute to multi-agency Channel panels as necessary to offer the most appropriate support to the pupil and/or family.

(WRAP) Online Prevent Training for the DSL, and all Staff on the Prevent Duty was undertaken in September 2016. Prevent Duty reminders for staff are repeated annually during

Safeguarding Inset. All new staff receive Prevent Training as part of their safeguarding induction.

The Department for Education has a dedicated telephone helpline (020 7340 7364) to enable staff and Council members to raise concerns relating to extremism directly.

PREVENT DUTY MONITORING AND REVIEW

Our response to the Prevent duty, the training of staff and the monitoring of pupils is overseen by the DSL.

It includes:

- Leadership and training at Senior Leadership and Governance level on fulfilling our Prevent obligations.
- A commitment to working in partnership with other agencies.
- Providing appropriate training for staff, including the risk of radicalisation without our Safeguarding policy and procedures.
- Embedding opportunities within the curriculum and co-curricular activities to actively promote British values and to develop the critical thinking of pupils.
- Continuing to promote e-safety among the pupil body.
- Implementing protocols to log visiting speakers to the School, checking their suitability and monitoring the content of such presentations.

VISITING SPEAKERS

Please refer to the Visiting Speakers Policy for further information.

The Prevent statutory guidance requires schools to have clear protocols for ensuring that any visiting speakers who might fall within the Prevent duty, whether invited by staff or pupils, are suitable and appropriately supervised.

Speakers who have not had the range of checks that apply to staff employed by the school, or to volunteers in regulated activity, are not to be left unsupervised with pupils. In addition, the school will endeavour to find out as much information as possible on the speaker before an invitation is confirmed, which should include, for example, an internet search, in order to ensure, as far as possible, that the individual does not represent a threat with regard to the school's Prevent duties.

Checks made of this nature will be recorded on the schools Single Central Record.

USEFUL INFORMATION AND CONTACT NUMBERS:

The UK Anti-Terrorist hotline: 0800 789 321

Crime Stoppers: 0800 555 111

Non-Emergency Police Contact: 101

www.gov.uk/report-terrorism

www.gov.uk/report-suspicious-activity-to-mi5