

Herries Prep School Prevent Policy



Created by:	Rob Grosse, Headteacher	Date: September 2025
Last reviewed on:	September 2025	
Next review due by:	September 2026	

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's following policies/documents:

Safeguarding Policy

Staff Induction Policy

Staff Code of Conduct

Appraisal Policy

Capability Policy

Staff Handbook

Summary

This Prevent Policy has been produced to ensure compliance with all relevant legislation, recommendations and guidance including the statutory guidance published by the Department for Education (DfE), Keeping Children Safe in Education - September 2025 (KCSIE), Disqualification Under the Childcare Act 2006 (DUCA), the Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales 2023 (the Prevent Duty Guidance) and the definition of 'extremism' set out in KCSIE:

The Prevent duty

All schools and colleges are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (the CTSA 2015), in the exercise of their functions, to have "due regard²¹ to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism". This duty is known as the Prevent duty. The Prevent duty should be seen as part of schools' and colleges' wider safeguarding obligations. Designated safeguarding leads and other senior leaders should familiarise themselves with the revised Prevent duty guidance: for England and Wales, especially paragraphs 57-76, which are specifically concerned with schools (and also covers childcare). The guidance is set out in terms of four general themes: risk assessment, working in partnership, staff training and IT policies.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance/revised-prevent-duty-guidance-for-england-and-wales>

Preventing radicalisation

Children are vulnerable to extremist ideology and radicalisation. Similar to protecting children from other forms of harms and abuse, protecting children from this risk should be a part of a schools' or colleges' safeguarding approach.

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. This also includes calling for the death of members of the armed forces.

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

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). However, it is possible to protect vulnerable people from extremist ideology and intervene to prevent those at risk of radicalisation being radicalised.

As with other safeguarding risks, staff should be alert to changes in children's behaviour, which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Staff should use their judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately which may include the designated safeguarding lead (or deputy) making a Prevent referral. The school's designated safeguarding lead (and any deputies) should be aware of local procedures for making a Prevent referral.

Prevent

This is part of the UK's counter terrorism strategy, preventing people from becoming involved in terrorism or supporting terrorism.

Purpose

- To understand Prevent's aims
- To understand how to identify those vulnerable to terrorism
- Consider how others are influenced and manipulated to commit crimes
- Recognise when a vulnerable individual may be in need of help
- Be clear on help and support mechanisms in this area for concerns

Talking about Radicalisation and Extremism

Despite being controversial, we must utilise support mechanisms available for individuals who are vulnerable or susceptible.

Staff must vocalise concerns in the first instance to the DSL.

Radicalisation

The process where someone has their vulnerabilities or susceptibilities exploited towards crime or terrorism – most often by a third party, who have their own agenda.

Terrorist Attacks

These are the tip of an iceberg involving:
Criminal and non-criminal Activity & Behaviour

Organisation
 Information
 Social Media
 Finance
 Networking
 Grooming
 Exploitation
 Radicalisation

Factors that make someone susceptible or vulnerable to carrying out or supporting violent, criminal or terrorist acts:

External Factors

Religion
 Peers
 Social Media
 Recession

Personal Indicators

Family Breakdown
 Identity
 Substance Abuse
 Mental Health

VULNERABILITIES

REASONS

Family Upheaval	Father left the family and poor relationship with mother
Anger	Blaming mother for family problems
Physical change	Growth spurt/maturity
A natural leader	Bullying others
Absence	Instances of truancy
Religious seeking	Unhappy after trip abroad
Loss	Feeling let down by father
Peer Pressure	Drug use
Self esteem	Feeling special as part of the group
Propaganda	Videos
Fear	Easier to keep the peace with intimidating peers

Sense of debt/guilt Feeling of owing it to peers

Socially excluded Failing at home and school

Often what's missing for the vulnerable individual feeling lost or frustrated is a support network to address those feelings.

Signs and behaviours that are a cause for concern

Emotional Behaviour – angry or displaying mood swings

Verbal Behaviour – expressing opinions that are at odds with our shared values.

Physical Behaviour - changes

Action

1. Notice
2. Check
3. Share

The Local Authority NOTICES a concern when it is brought to their attention.

The Police CHECK the validity of that concern.

And the concern is then SHARED with the panel as a whole.

At Herries, referrals in the first instance from the DSL/Prevent Lead go to multi-agencies in Slough and Bucks which are made by the Safeguarding Officers, who can also gain advice from their local PEO (Prevent Engagement Officer).

Referrals to Prevent & interventions

In England and Wales this is often a process chaired by the Local Authority, known as Channel.

Channel is a voluntary, confidential support programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. Prevent referrals may be passed to a multi-agency Channel panel, which will discuss the individual referred to determine whether they are vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism and consider the appropriate support required. A representative from the school or college may be asked to attend the Channel panel to help with this assessment. An individual's engagement with the programme is entirely voluntary at all stages.

Contact details for agency involvement, are displayed in the staffroom and set out below, including those for support and advice about extremism, for example, our local authority Prevent lead.

Local police force

101 (the non-emergency police number)

DfE dedicated telephone helpline and mailbox for non-emergency advice for staff and governors: 020 7340 7264

counter.extremism@education.gov.uk.

Staff must make referrals when concerned. The Police will make the decision as to where/if the referral sits within the wider Counter Terrorism Strategy (CONTEST).

It is better that staff vocalise concerns as quickly as possible to put in the support that individual may need.

The local Prevent Officer

Staff can speak to our local Prevent Officer or email concerns to prevent@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Training

DFE 'Keeping children safe in education September 2025':-

'Protecting children from maltreatment; preventing impairment of children's health or development; ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.'

As with all safeguarding training it is a good idea to refresh training on this topic every so often.

The Prevent strategy

This approach is proactive in trying to prevent issues.

Email prevent@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk.

Channel Co-ordinator:

Shaun Greenough shaun.greenough@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Regional Supervisors

Slough and Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead:

Misha Upadhyaya Misha.Upadhyaya@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Ian Healey Ian.Healey@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

High Wycombe:

Jeffery Singleton Jeffrey.Singleton@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Prav Liyange Prav.Liyanage@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Reading and West Berkshire:

Jo Physick Jo.Physick@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Tristan Khezzadeh Tristan.Khezzadeh@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Visiting speakers and the Prevent Duty

The Prevent Duty Guidance requires the School to have clear protocols for ensuring that any visiting speakers are suitable and appropriately supervised.

The School will also obtain such formal or informal background information about a visiting speaker as is reasonable in the circumstances to decide whether to invite and/or permit a speaker to attend the School. In doing so the School will always have regard to the Safeguarding Policy, the Prevent Duty Guidance and the definition of 'extremism' set out in KCSIE.

In fulfilling its Prevent Duty obligations the School does not discriminate on the grounds of race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, religion or religious belief, sex or sexual orientation, marital or civil partner status, disability or age.