



Bournmoor Primary School

Prevent Policy

Date for Review	November 2025
Headteacher	Mrs L A Snowdon
Chair of Governors	Mrs T Bell

What is Prevent?

Prevent is one of the four elements of the Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy (along with Pursue, Protest, Prepare) and is a form of safeguarding. The Counter Terrorism and Security Act of 2015 states that County Councils have a duty to ensure "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism". It recognises that early intervention is needed as the risks increasingly involve children and family members. 'Prevent' is the name given to the professionals who work in partnership to ensure that reported cases are dealt with effectively.

Aims of our Prevent Policy

This policy aims to recognise the issue of radicalisation and impact it could have on children. Radicalisation is a form of grooming and therefore needs to be treated in the same way as any other safeguarding concern. The policy aims to outline the steps to take if any report of potential radicalisation is reported by staff or pupil, identify who to contact in school and the wider community for support and show how our own systems in school can be vigilant. If a child is affected by terrorism or extreme ideology then the Prevent Team become part of the overall support given under the safeguarding procedures. The issues covered in this policy are reinforced in our other safeguarding policies e.g. Child Protection Policy.

The Role of our Curriculum

School has a range of initiatives and activities that promotes the spiritual, moral, social and emotional needs of children aimed at protecting them from radicalisation and extremist influences. A focus on community cohesion and the benefits of working together is shared and promoted in school. In addition, children are encouraged to share their experiences of community events they have taken part in during assembly or circle time activities. We aim to ensure we deliver a curriculum that helps develop critical thinking skills around the power of influence (particularly on-line and through social media) to support pupils in their decision making.

The Use of Social Media

Children could potentially be radicalised through direct contact with people as well as through social media. The use of the internet to contact young people is part of the national threat. Our current work on e-safety and how to know what is appropriate on-line is used to support children when using social media. This policy acknowledges that radicalisation is another potential e-safety issue which needs to be taken seriously. We aim to have an open and honest culture in school where pupils can report any issues of concern to them. In the case of potential radicalisation grooming then the Prevent Team would be part of the support offered to the child.

Staff Training and Reporting

Staff need to recognise the signs and know what to do if concerned. This advice will be given in Safeguarding meetings as part of our regular updates on keeping children safe in school. Staff need to have access to the referral pathway and know who to contact. As with any safeguarding concern, it would be reported to the designated teacher for Child Protection who would refer to the appropriate body. In the case of Prevent issues this would be the Headteacher. Staff need to be confident to challenge extremist ideas as they would challenge any other issue that might affect a child's safety. However, staff must be sensitive to the child, ensuring their focus is to listen, support and report.

The need to Risk Assess

It is important to ensure a risk assessment is carried out to look at the potential issues. The focus should be on:

- Safeguarding concerns for the child, linking with First Contact for advice and referrals
- Understanding the local environment and the likelihood of a pupil being exposed to ideology
- Be aware of the potential risk from social media and the internet on pupils
- Ensure our curriculum offers a broad and balanced approach to the teaching of social, moral, spiritual and emotional aspects and ensures children learn about the power of influence and their own need to think critically
- Look at the potential risks in the local area (information sharing)
- Complete the self-assessment checklist to ensure we are complying with Prevent requirements
- Work with the local police to look at the CTLP (Counter Terrorism Local Profile) and evaluate the potential scale of the issue

We have the following steps in place to ensure an effective Prevent strategy is embedded:

- The lead, Headteacher and governors understands Prevent, its objectives and the expectations of the Prevent duty.

- There is an identified strategic Prevent lead in school.
- There is a clear awareness of the roles and responsibilities regarding Prevent.
- Prevent safeguarding responsibilities are explicit within the school's safeguarding team.
- Key staff and governors understand the risk of radicalisation and know how to refer children who may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism.
- Strategic Prevent lead and/or safeguarding leads have a good understanding of Prevent, are able to recognise vulnerability to being drawn into terrorism and challenge extremist ideology associated with it. The lead understands how to obtain support for people who might be vulnerable to radicalisation and understand the 'Channel' programme.
- Staff have access to guidance and literature on the Prevent agenda.
- Ensure that preventing young people from being exposed to radicalisation or extremism is part of the school's safeguarding policies and procedures.
- A single point of contact for any Prevent concerns raised by staff within the school has been identified.
- An appropriate internal Prevent referral process has been developed.
- Partner agency communication channels have been developed – First Contact is the first port of call followed by the Prevent Lead at Durham County Council and Durham Constabulary when outside agencies need to be consulted or for making a referral.
- An audit trail for notification reports/referrals exists (see Appendix 1).
- Prevent referrals/notifications are being managed or overseen by relevant staff.
- A process is in place to identify and develop 'lessons learnt' (see Appendix 1).
- School has a range of initiatives and activities that promotes the spiritual, moral, social and emotional needs of children aimed at protecting them from radicalisation and extremist influences.
- The school delivers training that helps develop critical thinking skills around the power of influence, particularly on-line and through social media.
- Students are aware of the benefits of community cohesion and the damaging effects of extremism on community relations.
- Staff are able to provide appropriate challenge to students, parents or governors if opinions are expressed that are contrary to fundamental British values and promotion of community cohesion.

Equality

This policy aims to support *all* pupils who are at risk and need safeguarding measures to help and protect them.

Referral Process

In the same way that teachers are vigilant about signs of possible physical or emotional abuse in any of our pupils, if we have a concern for the safety of a specific young person at risk of radicalisation, we would follow our safeguarding procedures with the Designated Safeguarding Lead, and where deemed necessary, with children's social care. If we have a concern about anyone that may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism or extremism we can refer them for support and intervention with the Counter Terrorism Police North East by emailing FIMUNorth@CTPNE.police.uk. We use the Prevent referral form hosted on the Durham Constabulary website on the following link when making a referral. <https://www.durham.police.uk/Report-It/Terrorism/Prevent.aspx> We remember that PREVENT does not criminalise those who are referred. We aim to safeguard and help those at risk.

An assessment will be carried out which will identify the risk that may be associated to the person as well as any vulnerability that they may have. Factors will then be addressed by local authority and other partners. The purpose is to build a tailored support package to divert the person away from the concerning behaviour. This process is about working to help someone who may be drawn towards an offending pathway at the earliest possible stage. PREVENT does not deal with people who are offending. This is a safeguarding process and does NOT involve criminal investigations. There is a Channel Panel – Multi-agency Safeguarding meeting.

Contacts

- FIMUNorth@CTPNE.police.uk for referrals
- <https://www.durham.police.uk/Report-It/Terrorism/Prevent.aspx> for referrals
- Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)
- First Contact Tel: 03000 267979
- Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership website (DSCP) <https://durham-scp.org.uk/> for referral form and advice

Appendix 1: Audit Trail and Review Sheet
'Working together, saving lives and reducing harm'.



Appendix 1: Audit Trail and Review Sheet

Date		
	Information / Intelligence	
	Assessment of risks	
	Development of a working strategy	
	Powers, policies and procedures to be considered	
	Options and contingencies	
	Actions taken	
	Review of Actions	