



Whitecross Nursery School

Prevent Policy

Reviewed by	Claire FitzPatrick
Date of last review	March 2025
Date of next review	March 2026
Ratified by the Governing Body	April 2025

This policy will be reviewed sooner if there is a change to legislation or guidance which may affect it. Any changes will be communicated to all stakeholders.

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Statement of intent

Whitecross Nursery School recognises that children and their families can be vulnerable to extremist ideology and radicalisation, and we are committed to protecting children from this risk as part of our safeguarding responsibilities.

Our commitment to safeguarding children against extremism, radicalisation and terrorism includes interventions and collaboration with other agencies including the police and the LA where appropriate and as required.

We support and will adhere to guidance from the DfE which requires nursery schools to actively promote fundamental British values in order to enable children to challenge extremist views and ensure that children are encouraged to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance.

This policy relates to the potential radicalisation of children at our nursery school. For guidance on specific terrorist incidents, please see our Invacuation, Lockdown and Evacuation procedures.

1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Children Act 1989

- Education Act 1996
- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Childcare Act 2006
- Equality act 2010
- Data Protection Act 2018
- UK GDPR
- Home Office (2024) 'Prevent duty guidance: England and Wales'
- DfE (2024) 'Keeping children safe in education'
- DfE (2023) 'The Prevent duty: safeguarding learners vulnerable to radicalisation'
- DfE (2023) 'Working Together to Safeguard Children'
- Home Office (2021) 'Channel Duty guidance: protecting people vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following nursery school policies:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Online Safety Policy
- Equality Information and Objectives Statement

2. Definitions

For the purpose of this policy:

Extremism – is defined as vocal or active opposition to fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. This includes calling for the death of members of the armed forces.

Radicalisation – is defined as the process of a person legitimising support for, or use of, terrorist violence.

Terrorism – is defined as 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.

3. Roles and responsibilities

The governing board will be responsible for:

- Ensuring the appropriate measures are in place to protect children from radicalisation.
- Ensuring the Prevent duty is seen as part of the nursery schools wider safeguarding duties.
- Ensuring the nursery school has a designated lead in a senior management role who is responsible for the delivery of Prevent.
- Having robust safeguarding policies in place to ensure that those at risk of radicalisation are identified and appropriate support is provided.
- Ensuring that policies are in place which are proportionate and based on an understanding, shared with partners, of the threat and risk in the local area, the phase of education, and the size and type of nursery school.
- Will be responsible for all new governors undertaking relevant Prevent training as part of their induction

The Headteacher will be responsible for:

- The overall implementation and management of this policy.
- Ensuring every staff member is familiar with the scope of this policy.
- Ensuring children are taught about British values through the curriculum.
- Ensuring that the teaching of the nursery school curriculum encourages learners to respect other people.
- Ensuring the nursery school is a safe space in which children can understand and discuss age appropriately.
- Identifying extremist risks in the local area.
- Ensuring that the nursery school's safeguarding policies set out clear protocols for ensuring that any visiting speakers, are suitable and appropriately supervised.
- Ensuring that invited speakers do not undermine the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.
- Ensuring appropriate prevent training is undertaken by each member of staff.
- Ensuring DSLs or Prevent leads receive in-depth training, including on extremist and terrorist ideologies, how to make referrals and how to work with Channel panels - updated at least every two years.
- Ensuring the nursery school has robust procedures for sharing information, both internally and externally.
- Having measures in place to prevent their facilities being exploited by radicalisers.
- Ensuring that policies relating to the appropriate use of IT equipment and networks contain specific reference to the Prevent duty.

The DSL, and any deputies, will be responsible for:

- Handling any referrals to Prevent and/or Channel and supporting staff who make referrals.
- Co-operating as reasonably practicable with LA-led Channel panels.
- Following up any referrals made to the Prevent.
- Providing advice and support to staff on protecting children from the risk of radicalisation.
- Working with external agencies to support children at risk of being drawn into terrorism.
- Providing guidance to other staff members to help them support children at risk of being drawn into terrorism.
- Understanding local procedures for making a Prevent referral and making Prevent referrals where appropriate.
- Considering if it would be appropriate to share any information with a new nursery school or primary school in advance of a child leaving, e.g. if the child is currently receiving support through the 'Channel' programme and the information would allow the new setting to have support in place for when the child arrives.
- Undertaking specific prevent awareness training and providing advice and support to other staff on protecting children from the risk of radicalisation.
- Maintaining an awareness of the risks relating to extremism in the local area.
- Maintaining a clear understanding of prevent reporting and referral mechanisms.

All staff members will be responsible for:

- Being alert to the risk factors of extremism and radicalisation and any changes in a child's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection.
- Raising any concerns with the DSL (or any deputies, in their absence).
- Notifying the DSL (or any deputies, in their absence) when they make any referrals to Prevent.

- Engaging in staff training on the Prevent duty.
- Using their professional judgement to identify children who may be at risk of radicalisation and acting proportionately.

4. Promoting fundamental British values

Through our early year's curriculum, the nursery school will build upon our nursery values to ensure that all children age appropriately:

- Are strong communicators both verbal and non-verbal building an extensive vocabulary
- Share and develop a passionate love of books, stories, rhymes and songs
- Participate in first hand cultural experiences
- Enthuse and embrace a lifelong love of outdoor learning
- Build the foundation of skills and resilience for an ever-changing world
- Accept and understand our British values of
 - Being fair to all (Democracy)
 - Understanding right and wrong (The law)
 - Accepting boundaries (Accountability)
 - Building mutual trust (Individual Liberty)
 - Accepting and celebrating diversity (Equality)
 - Have patience, acceptance and understanding t others (Tolerance)

5. Community links

The nursery school will engage in discussions with local community, religious leaders, local law enforcement and the governing board meetings will include discussion about extremism and terrorism where appropriate.

The nursery school will operate an open-door policy for community members to report concerns.

The nursery school will, where appropriate, partake in community festivals, religious celebrations and other events.

The nursery school will develop effective partnerships with local prevent leads, the police and the LA through multi-agency forums.

The nursery school will maintain an up-to-date awareness of the risk and threat posed in the local area and the latest developments in best practice through local partnerships.

6. Safeguarding from extremism

The nursery school will do its utmost to safeguard children from being drawn into extremism and terrorism, whilst also ensuring it protects the right to freedom of expression. This policy is not intended or designed to restrict or prevent legitimate and lawful congregation or debate.

The nursery school has a dedicated DSL who will deal with any incidents of extremism and/or terrorism within our nursery school community.

The nursery school has strong relationships with our local safeguarding partners and will involve them at the earliest opportunity if safeguarding issues arise.

The nursery school will encourage any child, parent, staff member or member of the wider nursery school community to speak to the DSL if they have concerns about:

- Children becoming radicalised.
- Groups, clubs or societies with extremist or radical views.
- Friends and/or families of children becoming radicalised or involved in extremism.

- Children planning to visit known areas of conflict.
- Members of the nursery school and wider community attempting to draw young and/or vulnerable children into extremism.

Visitors and speakers coming into the nursery school will be vetted prior to them having access to children.

The nursery school will incorporate appropriate filtering and monitoring systems to limit children's exposure to online risks, including extremist content.

The DSL and ICT team will work together to ensure that there is a clear reporting process in place where filtering systems raise safeguarding or prevent-related concerns.

7. Preventing radicalisation

The nursery school will assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorism through identifying the factors that affect children in the local area and knowing how to identify those at risk.

Allegations and concerns of radicalisation and/or terrorism will always be taken seriously and staff will act proportionately, which may include making a Prevent referral.

The nursery school is aware that extremist propaganda is widely available online, and will educate children to ensure that British values are promoted regularly to encourage children to develop an appreciation of society.

All internet activity that takes place on site will be recorded, as well as activity on any nursery school-owned computers, laptops and tablets off site, and appropriate filters will be installed to protect children from terrorist and extremist material online, in accordance with the Online Safety Policy. In accordance with KCSIE and our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, children will be taught about the importance of staying safe online in an age appropriate way.

The nursery school will always aim to integrate and engage every child within the nursery school community, and in the wider community. A range of different religious and cultural festivals will be celebrated across the year giving every child the opportunity to take part.

The nursery school will monitor and assess incidents which suggest children are engaging, or are at risk of engaging, in extremist activity and/or radicalisation. Where a child has been identified as at risk of radicalisation, the nursery school will take action proportionate to the incident or risk.

8. Identifying concerns

Although extremist behaviour can be presented in many forms, the nursery school recognises the following as potential indicators of radicalisation or a susceptibility to radicalisation:

- Disclosure about extremist or radicalised behaviour by children – this could include exposure to materials outside of nursery school
- Use of specific terms associated with certain ideological views, e.g. 'hate' language
- Intelligence reports from local and national agencies regarding the radicalisation of groups of people in the local area
- Documented concerns raised by parents or family members about the changing behaviour of the child
- Disassociation from existing friendship groups
- A loss of interest in activities in which they previously engaged

- Behavioural characteristics, such as low self-esteem, isolation, and perceptions of failure and injustice
- Family tensions

The nursery school will encourage staff to engage with online government resources, including the website Educate Against Hate, and the Prevent e-learning modules provided by the Home Office.

9. Making a referral

In accordance with the nursery school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, if any member of staff has any concerns about a child, they will raise this with the DSL.

Parents will be contacted to discuss the issue and investigate where there are any mitigating home circumstances, unless doing so would put the child at further risk of harm. A decision will be made at this meeting to determine whether a referral should be made to Prevent. In most cases, the DSL will refer the case to Prevent where there is a radicalisation concern, as appropriate.

If there is a concern about potential radicalisation into terrorism or reason to believe that someone is susceptible to radicalisation staff members will make referrals using the Prevent national referral form – the DSL will be notified in all cases and will support staff members who do so.

What happens when a person is referred to Prevent?

Prevent referrals will usually follow the process set out below:

1. The local police force will look at each referral first. They will check if there is an immediate security threat. They will also check if there is a genuine risk of radicalisation.
2. If the person isn't at risk of radicalisation, they will not be deemed a case for Prevent. Where appropriate, the person may instead be offered other support, for example being referred to mental health services or social services.
3. If there is a risk of radicalisation, a panel of local experts will assess the referral. The panel is led by the LA and may include the police, children's services, social services, education professionals and mental health care professionals.
4. If the panel decides that a person is at risk, they will be invited to join a support programme called Channel. This is voluntary, so a person can choose whether to take part. If a person chooses not to take part in the programme, they may be offered other support instead and any risk will be managed by the police.

The support provided by the Channel programme may include the following:

- Mentoring
- Mental health support such as counselling
- Education or career development support
- Online safety training for parents

The police will be notified immediately if someone is about to put themselves or others in immediate danger, or if they appear to be involved in planning to carry out a criminal offence and the nursery school's emergency procedures will be followed.

The DSL will record and retain all incidents for nursery school records in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK GDPR, as outlined in the Data Protection Policy.

The nursery school will ensure that all of those involved in a referral understand that referrals are not made to the Home Office and that getting support from Prevent is not a punishment and will not go on a person's criminal record.

10. Training

All staff will attend safeguarding training which includes information on preventing people from being drawn into terrorism or extremist groups. Prevent training will be provided online and will be updated as required. Training will include details of the 'Notice, Check, Share' process.

Staff will be provided with regular updates, notices and emails regarding Prevent and anti-extremism as required.

The SLT and DSL will receive additional support from local partnerships and training on local processes for Prevent. When identifying training needs, consideration will be given to the level of knowledge needed for different roles.

Records will be maintained of training provided to ensure that training needs are being met and kept up to date.

Training will be quality assured by the DSL and its effectiveness reviewed regularly. The nursery school will make use of government quality assured prevent training resources.

Staff will be trained to be aware of and to identify concerning behaviour that may indicate a child is susceptible to radicalisation, e.g. voicing intolerant narratives.

Training will take account of, and be proportionate to, the risk of terrorism and extremism in the local area.

Staff will be trained to be vigilant toward the push and pull factors that could make a child vulnerable to being drawn into extremism or radicalisation.

Staff will look out for 'push factors' including where a child may be feeling:

- Isolated
- That they do not belong
- That they have no purpose
- Low in self-esteem
- That their aspirations are unmet
- Angry or frustrated
- A sense of injustice
- Confused about life or the world
- Real or perceived personal grievances

In conjunction with these push factors, staff will be aware of the 'pull factors' that could make extremist or terrorist groups and ideologies attractive to those experiencing the above feelings.

Staff will be aware that pull factors can include where extremist or terrorist groups:

- Offer a sense of community and a support network.
- Promise fulfilment or excitement.
- Make the child feel special and part of a wider mission.
- Offer a very narrow, manipulated version of an identity that often supports stereotypical gender norms.
- Offer inaccurate answers or falsehoods to grievances.
- Encourage conspiracy theories.
- Promote an 'us vs. them' mentality.
- Blame specific communities for grievances.
- Encourage the use of hatred and violent actions to get justice.

- Encourage ideas of supremacy.

Further advice on training will be sought from the LA safeguarding team as appropriate.

11. Monitoring and review

This policy is reviewed annually by the Headteacher, the DSL and the Safeguarding governor.

APPENDIX A

Prevent Referrals – Pathway

Are there worries about a young person's change in appearance and behaviour, their ideology or online activity?

Are you worried about the behaviours and actions of an adult in the Nursery school?



Take advice from your Nursery school Safeguarding Lead.

**Sally Siner - Prevent Education Officer, email: sally.siner@derby.gov.uk,
telephone: [07765 222032](tel:07765222032)**

**Derby City Council Prevent Team (Cohesion & Prevent Manager, Prevent Support Officer and Prevent Education Officer) telephone 01332 640000
View the Derby City Prevent guidance [here](#)**

Call the Police Prevent team 0300 122 8694 or 101 (in an emergency 999)

Make the Prevent referral using the [referral form](#) on the Safer Derbyshire website.



If the child is considered to be at immediate risk of harm, a telephone referral to social care should be made via 01332 641172 (Initial Response Team).



If the child is not considered to be at immediate risk of harm, start the Early Help Assessment if it has not already been started/completed.

This will help to support the young person/family as well as evidencing actions taken, should additional support be required



Police receive all Prevent referrals – investigations are undertaken and where Child Protection concerns other than radicalisation and extremism are identified, a referral to social care is made via the police electronic network.



A Social Worker will review the presenting information within the referral to determine further actions for Social Care or Targeted Early Help services. An officer from the Police Prevent team will be included in the Strategy discussions if they are required.



NB – Whilst the Police Prevent Team can recognise vulnerabilities and support the safeguarding process, they are primarily focused on Counter Terrorism and Domestic Extremism risk. Please make sure other safeguarding measures (including Early help Assessments) are progressed in a timely