



Safeguarding Update - January

This month's staff safeguarding Newsletter focuses on Prevent.



What is Prevent?

Prevent is about safeguarding people and communities from the threat of terrorism. Prevent is 1 of the four elements of CONTEST, the Government's counter-terrorism strategy. It aims to stop people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

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Prevent Strategy



The Prevent strategy:

- Responds to the ideological challenge we face from terrorism and aspects of extremism and the threat we face from those who promote these views;
- Provides practical help to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support; and
- Works with a wide range of sectors (including education, criminal justice, faith, charities, online and health) where we need to deal with risks of radicalisation.

Prevent covers all forms of terrorism and extremism and some aspects of non-violent extremism. The Home Office works with local authorities, a wide range of government departments, and community organisations to deliver the Prevent strategy. The police also play a significant role in Prevent, in much the same way as they do when taking a preventative approach to other crimes.

Prevent uses a range of measures to challenge extremism, including:

- Supporting people who are at risk of being drawn into terrorist or extremist activity through the Channel process, see the What is Channel section to find out more about this
- Working with and supporting community groups and social enterprise projects who provide services and support to vulnerable people
- Working with faith groups and institutions to assist them in providing support and guidance to people who may be vulnerable; and
- Supporting local schools, industry, and partner agencies through engagement, advice and training.

Prevent Definitions



Ideology:

An Ideology is a set of beliefs.

Radicalisation:

Radicalisation is the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism that may lead to terrorism.

Safeguarding:

Safeguarding is the process of protecting vulnerable people, whether from crime, other forms of abuse or from being drawn into terrorism related activity.

Terrorism:

Terrorism is an action that endangers or causes serious violence, damage or disruption and is intended to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made with the intention of advancing a political, religious or ideological.

Vulnerability:

Vulnerability describes factors and characteristics associated with being susceptible to radicalisation.

Extremism:

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

What has changed? December 2023 updates



The changes provide greater clarity, practical advice and signposting to best practice. The changes include:

Ideological causes of terrorism

The first objective of Prevent has been changed to “tackle the ideological causes of terrorism”. The ideological component of terrorism is what sets it apart from other acts of serious violence. The guidance recommends education settings consider ideology when delivering all aspects of Prevent. The guidance introduces a new theme - ‘Reducing Permissive Environments’ to tackle the ideological causes of terrorism. For schools and early years, this includes the existing considerations of building resilience through the curriculum and having effective IT and visiting speaker policies to reduce exposure to radicalising influences.

Updated terminology

Terminology has been updated to reflect current best practice and official terminology. This includes clarifying that the guidance only applies to non-violent extremism where it can be reasonably linked to terrorism or could draw people into terrorism.

Old Terminology

'Vulnerable' to extremist ideology and radicalisation

children, young people and adult learners

New Terminology

'Susceptible' to extremist ideology and

learners

Managing Risk

The risk and threat landscape has been updated in line with the counter-terrorism strategy (CONTEST) 2023. The risk and threat picture is broader than that of 2015, but the threat from Islamist terrorism remains the primary concern. We recommend settings consider whether their risk assessments accurately reflect and account for local risk and threat, and are proportionate based on setting size and provision.

Information Sharing

A new section has been added on information sharing, to reiterate that sharing information on Prevent should be treated the same as wider safeguarding.

The National Referral Form is being rolled out nationally with the aim for all Prevent partners to adopt this approach. The referral form means that there is greater consistency of outcome both within and across a local authority. Providers should continue to follow their existing processes for sharing information about learners susceptible to radicalisation and be aware of the Prevent referral process in their local authority.

It also highlights existing KCSIE expectations that, where appropriate, as with any other safeguarding concern, any Prevent concerns should be securely transferred when a child moves school or college.

What is Channel?



Channel provides support across the country to those vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. The programme's overall aim is early intervention and diverting people from the risk they may face.

Channel uses existing collaboration between partners to support individuals and protect them from being drawn into terrorism. Who delivers channel? The process is a multi-agency approach with a wide range of agencies and local partners working together to provide support for individuals. Coordinators are usually police officers, with the local authority chairing the multi-agency panel.

How does Channel work?

Channel works by partners jointly assessing the nature and the extent of the risk and, where necessary, providing an appropriate support package tailored to the individual's needs.

The three key stages of Channel are:

- Identify individuals at risk of being drawn into terrorism;
- Assess the nature and extent of that risk; and
- Develop the most appropriate support plan for the individuals concerned.

Assessing the nature and extent of the risk

Where necessary, refer cases to a multi-agency panel for the development of the most appropriate support package to divert and support the individual at risk.

How do you identify those at risk?

Referrals come from those concerned about individuals who may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism.

Who makes the referrals?

Referrals can come from a wide range of individuals and partners and could include youth offending teams, social services, health, police, education and local communities.

Who sits on the multi-agency panel?

The panel is designed to work the same way as other multi-agency structures used to safeguard individuals at risk – from drugs, knife and gun crime, gangs etc. The local authority chaired the panel which consists of statutory partners and the Channel coordinator.

What kind of support is provided through the channel?

Examples of support could include mentoring, diversionary activities such as sports, and signposting to mainstream services such as education, employment or housing. Support is always tailored to the specific needs of the following individual assessment by the multi-agency panel.

Safeguarding Concerns

Are you
concerned
about a child?

Speak to a DSL



Ms Martin
Headteacher



Mr Gadsby
Deputy Headteacher



Mrs Bramley
Assistant Headteacher



Mr Glanney
KS1 Leader



Mrs Tarling
Acting EYFS Lead
Nursery Lead

Record your concern in writing on

CPOMS

<https://biertoncombined.cpoms.net/>