P2.8 (Isi 7a) – Prevent Duty Policy

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Reviewed By :	Leadership Team	3rd March 2022
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Governor Review By :	Education & Welfare Committee	24th April 2022

Contents

Revision History

Revision	Paragraph Number	Revision
November 2017		
September 2018		
March 2020		
May 2021		
Spring 2022	Paragraph 1	Significantly expanded and reordered.
	Title	Change title from "Introduction" to "The Prevent Duty"
	Paragraph 6	Update date of KCSIE from 2020 to 2021
	Paragraph 11	Add Footnote 2
	Paragraph 19	Delete "and Channel awareness"
	Paragraph 20	Rephrase to strengthen emphasis
	Paragraph 22	Change "PSHCE" to "PSHE"
	Paragraph 26	Replace "fundamental British Values" with "FBV" and add reference to PSHE Policy P1.9.
	Title & Section	Deletion of section titled "PSHCE" to avoid duplication with existing policy P1.9 PHSE Policy
	Paragraph 27	Add "(P2.2 Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy)"
	Paragraph 33	Updated to streamline statement.

Abbreviations, Acronyms and Definitions

Abbreviation / Acronym	Definition
C-SPA	Surrey Children's Single Point of Access
DSL	Designated Safeguarding Lead
FBV	Fundamental British Values
KCSIE	Keeping Children Safe in Education

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PSHE	Personal, Social, Health and Education
RSE	Relationship and Sex Education

Aim / Objective / Statement of Intent

1. The School's aim is to prevent the political indoctrination of pupils through the curriculum. It is not the School's aim to prevent pupils from being exposed to political views or from discussing political issues in school. Pupils should not however, be actively encouraged by teachers or others to support particular political viewpoints. The School will achieve this by:

   - Helping staff identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation and know what to do when they are identified.
   - Building pupils' resilience to radicalisation by promoting Fundamental British Values (FBV) and enabling them to challenge extremist views.
   - Providing a safe space in which pupils and staff can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and the extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology, and learn how to challenge these ideas.

The Prevent Duty

2. Section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty on certain bodies (including independent schools) in the exercise of their functions, to have 'due regard[1] to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.' Being drawn into terrorism includes not just violent extremism but also non-violent extremism, which can create an atmosphere conducive to terrorism and can popularise views which terrorists exploit.

3. 'Terrorism' is defined in the Terrorism Act 2000. In summary, this defines terrorism 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.

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

5. Terrorist groups often draw on extremist ideology, developed by extremist organisations. Some people who join terrorist groups have previously been members of extremist organisations and have been radicalised by them. The Government has defined extremism in the 2011 Prevent strategy as 'vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance

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[1] 'Having due regard' means that the School should place an appropriate amount of weight on the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism when they consider all other factors relevant to how the School carries out its usual functions.

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of different faiths and beliefs". Also included in the definition of extremism are "calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas".

6. This policy has regard to the following documents:-

    - [Revised Prevent duty guidance: for England and Wales - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](#)
    - Keeping Children Safe In Education (September 2021)
    - Working Together (December 2020)

7. This policy is to be read, in particular, in conjunction with the School's **Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy** (P2.2)

Identification of Vulnerable pupils

8. Children from all backgrounds can become radicalised. Extremists might target them and tell them they can be part of "something special", later brainwashing them into cutting themselves off from their friends and family. Some pupils are more vulnerable than others. These may include pupils :-

    - Who are struggling with a sense of identity
    - Who are becoming distanced from their cultural or religious background
    - Who are questioning their own place in society
    - Who are experiencing family issues
    - Who have experienced a traumatic event
    - Who are experiencing racism or discrimination
    - Who have difficulty in interacting socially and who lack empathy
    - Who have difficulty in understanding the consequences of their actions
    - Who suffer from low self-esteem

9. There is no single route to radicalisation. It can happen over a long period of time or sometimes it is triggered by a specific incident or news item and it can happen very quickly. Listed below are some behaviours which may indicate possible radicalisation:-

    - Accessing (or attempting to access) extremist online content
    - Asking inappropriate questions
    - Being sympathetic to extremist ideologies and groups
    - Joining, or tying to join, an extremist organisation
    - Using seemingly scripted phrases when talking about radicalised ideas
    - Changing online identities or creating multiple online identities
    - Not listening to other points of view
    - Showing unwillingness or inability to discuss their views
    - Behaving abusively towards people who are different
    - Embracing conspiracy theories

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- Feeling persecuted
- Changing friends and appearance
- Converting to a new religion or denouncing a current religion
- Being secretive of movements or of their internet use
- Displaying unhealthy obsession for websites/books about terrorists or terrorist attacks
- Becoming increasingly argumentative
- Distancing themselves from old friends
- No longer doing things they enjoy

10. As with the management of all safeguarding risks, staff are warned:

- To be alert to changes in children's behaviour which could indicate they may be in need of help or protection;
- To use their professional judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and to act proportionately;
- To relay any concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead, in accordance with the procedures set out in the Schools Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy (P2.2)

11. If the Designated Safeguarding Lead (or one of the Deputies) feels that it is appropriate to do so, a referral will be made to the Channel programme[2].

Risk Assessment

12. The School regularly assesses the risk of its pupils being drawn into terrorism, including showing their support for extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology.

13. This involves developing in all staff a general understanding of how to identify pupils who may be at risk of radicalisation and what to do to support them. This is supported by this written policy along with our P2.2 Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy.

14. It is important that the School responds in an appropriate and proportionate way, whilst also being aware of the increased risk of online radicalisation through the use of social media and the internet.

15. The School is also aware of the potential risks posed by any outside speaker who is engaged to talk on a sensitive issue (for example, religion or politics). A risk assessment will therefore be carried out with appropriate checks being made. (See also our P4.1 Recruitment Policy – Appendix 4)

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[2] 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.

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Working in Partnership

16. The School works in partnership with C-SPA taking into account their policies and procedures, for example, their threshold guidance indicating when a child or young person might be referred for support.

17. The School is ready to approach Prevent Co-ordinators and other partners, such as the Police, for advice and support on implementing the Prevent Duty if needed. (See also paragraphs 27 – 29 "Reporting a concern".)

18. The School will work in partnership with parents, who are in a key position to spot signs of radicalisation, assisting and advising families who raise concerns and directing them to the appropriate support mechanisms.

Staff Training

19. The School will ensure that the Designated Safeguarding Lead and the Deputies undertake Prevent training and are thus able to provide advice and support to other members of staff on protecting children from the risk of radicalisation.

20. All Staff, including Governors, are also be required to undertake online training in the Prevent Duty.

21. Training for all staff will be updated at least every 3 years and additional refresher training may be carried out should the DSL deem it necessary, based on updated risk assessments of the vulnerability of pupils or key changes in guidance.

IT Policies

22. The School realises the importance of ensuring that pupils are able, and know how, to stay safe online and provides regular training and education to that effect, both through PSHE and other occasional training.

23. In particular, the School will work with its IT consultants to ensure that suitable filtering is in place to ensure that pupils are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in School. Any attempts to access terrorist or extremist material via a school owned device or via the School's wi-fi network will generate an alert to the DSL. The system will not however prevent pupils from accessing material via their own personal devices using their own data. Staff must therefore remain highly vigilant.

24. As with other online risks of harm, every teacher needs to be aware of the risks posed by the online activity of extremist and terrorist groups.

Building pupils' resilience to radicalisation

25. The School considers it important to build pupils' resilience to radicalisation by providing a safe environment for debating controversial issues and helping them to understand how they can influence and participate in decision-making.

26. The School realises the importance of promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils and emphasising FBV. Further details are available in our PSHE Policy (P1.2).

Reporting concerns

27. If a member of staff in School has a concern about a particular pupil, they should follow the School's normal safeguarding procedures (See P2.2 Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy) and report their concern to the School's Designated Safeguarding Lead. If the DSL considers it appropriate, the matter will be discussed with C-SPA and with the Prevent advisor at Surrey Police.

28. Staff can also contact Surrey Police by dialling 101 (the non-emergency number). The Police will talk to staff in confidence about their concerns and help them gain access to support and advice.

29. Staff and Governors are also able to contact the Department for Education on a telephone helpline (020 7340 7264) in order to raise concerns relating to extremism directly.Concerns can also be raised by email to counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk. Please note that the helpline is **not** intended for use in emergency situations, such as a child being at immediate risk of harm or a security incident, in which case normal emergency procedures should be followed.

Monitoring and Enforcement

30. This policy will be reviewed at least annually and updated whenever necessary and the School has nominated the DSL to be its *Prevent* Lead.

31. The School's IT Consultants will support the school in monitoring the browsing history of pupils and staff whenever there is a concern about the wellbeing of the individual.

32. All staff are reminded that should they come across any terrorist or extremist material online, this can be reported anonymously by following the instructions available on www.gov.uk/report-terrorism

33. The School's compliance with the Prevent duty forms part of the inspection process by ISI.