Prevent duty

DEBORAH UDAKIS CONSULTANCY LTD

Prevent Duty Guidance: for England and Wales

- Guidance for specified authorities in England and Wales on the duty in the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.
- ► Revised 1 April 2021



Revised *Prevent* Duty Guidance: for England and Wales

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Ofsted guidance



Extremism, radicalisation and the Prevent duty

- From 1 July 2015, all early years providers are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015. This is the Prevent duty.
- Staff must be able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation.
- Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is part of a setting's safeguarding duties.
- Early years settings can build children's resilience to radicalisation by promoting fundamental British values and allowing children to challenge extremist views.

Defining terrorism

Terrorism and extremism are sometimes used interchangeably. Both pose a threat but they have very distinct definitions.

Terrorism is an action or threat designed to influence the government or intimidate the public. Its purpose is to advance a political, religious or ideological cause. The current UK definition of terrorism is given in the <u>Terrorism Act 2006</u>. In the UK we define terrorism as a violent action that: Endangers a person's life, other than that of the person committing the action it involves serious violence against a person; causes serious damage to property; creates a serious risk to the public's health and safety; interferes with or seriously disrupts an electronic system

Defining extremism

- ► Extremism is the vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and respect and tolerance for different faiths and beliefs.
- ▶ It's important to remember that not all extremist groups, whether Islamist, far-right or other, will commit terrorist or violent acts. However, some groups pose particular threats, both online and offline.



Who is most at risk?

- ▶ Radicalisation in children can happen over a long period of time. In some cases it is triggered by a specific incident or news item and can happen much quicker. Sometimes there are clear warning signs of radicalisation, in other cases the changes are less obvious.
- ▶ The teenage years are a time of great change and young people often want to be on their own, easily become angry and often mistrust authority. This makes it hard to differentiate between normal teenage behaviour and attitude that indicates a child may have been exposed to radicalising influences.



Possible signs of extremism/ radicalisation.

- ► Group / team discussion.
- ► Take 5 minutes to consider the potential indicators that a young person or family member has become radicalised.



Signs of radicalisation

► There is no single route to radicalisation. However, there are some behavioural traits that could indicate that your child has been exposed to radicalising influences.



Possible indicators

Outward appearance

Becoming increasingly argumentative

Refusing to listen to different points of view

Unwilling to engage with children who are different

Becoming abusive to children who are different

Feeling persecuted

Embracing conspiracy theories

Changing friends and appearance

Distancing themselves from old friends

No longer doing things they used to enjoy

Converting to a new religion

Being secretive and reluctant to discuss their whereabouts

Sympathetic to extremist ideologies and groups

Online behaviour

- Changing online identity
- ► Having more than one online identity
- Spending a lot of time online or on the phone
- ► Accessing extremist online content
- ▶ Joining or trying to join an extremist organisation.



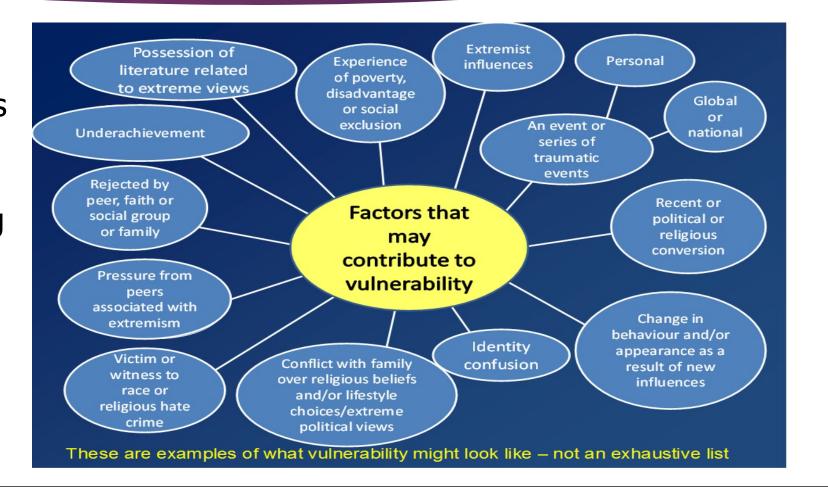
We are a provider in a rural area so do we need to worry about the Prevent Duty?

Experience so far shows that extremism can be found in any area, with any community, in the same way as Safeguarding is an issue everywhere. Prevent is now a statutory duty and is therefore a requirement for all providers as set out in the Prevent Guidance
Document.



Do we need a Prevent officer who is separate from the Designated Safeguarding Lead?

No, it is regarded as best practice to incorporate this within your existing Safeguarding arrangements, recognising that Prevent is about safeguarding vulnerable individuals.



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Any questions

