Anti-Radicalisation Policy

APRIL WELL LIMITED — Company No. 11924473

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This policy is publicly available. It is available to staff, volunteers and homestays, and to parents, agents, partner schools and inspectors on request.

Document Control

Title: Anti-Radicalisation Policy

Owner: Xiaoying Chi, Director / DSL

Approved by: Xiaoying Chi

Document ID: AWP-ARP-02

Version: v2.0 (21 October 2026)

Issue date: 21 October 2026

Next review: 21 October 2027 *(or earlier if law/policy changes)*

Status: Public

Distribution: Company website; staff, volunteers and homestays; Student/Parent Handbooks; parents, schools and inspectors on request.

This document is reviewed at least annually in October and whenever statutory guidance, safeguarding requirements or AEGIS Standards change. This revision reflects the AEGIS Quality Standards, September 2026, including Standard 6.6.

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Policy Statement

April Well Limited recognises the importance of making all individuals aware of the Prevent strand of the UK Government's CONTEST strategy, the policy and procedure to follow if they identify any concerns in relation to radicalisation and extremism, and how we can work with partners to protect children from this form of abuse.

April Well Limited is a small guardianship organisation. Students supported by April Well normally live in boarding accommodation at their schools or with their parents. April Well Limited does not provide routine or long-term homestay accommodation. However, April Well may arrange or coordinate short-term emergency accommodation in clearly defined emergency or exceptional situations, in accordance with its Emergency Procedure and safeguarding policies. References in this policy to "homestays" include any host family or emergency accommodation arrangement used or approved by April Well Limited..

Legislation

CONTEST is the name of the UK's strategy to respond to the threat of domestic and international terrorism, and the steps that need to be taken to protect the public. The strategy aims to reduce the risk to the UK and our assets overseas, so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence. CONTEST is split into four strands:

- Prevent: to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism
- Pursue: to stop terrorist attacks
- Protect: to strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack
- Prepare: to mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack

Schools and colleges are subject to the Prevent duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015. They must have due regard to preventing people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

This duty is known as the Prevent Duty and applies to a wide range of public-facing bodies.

Although April Well Limited is not a school or college, we treat radicalisation and extremism as safeguarding concerns and work in partnership with schools, parents and statutory agencies where Prevent-related concerns arise. This policy takes account of current Prevent duty guidance and the DfE Prevent guidance updated in October 2026.

The objectives of Prevent are to:

- tackle the ideological causes of terrorism
- intervene early to support people susceptible to radicalisation
- enable people who have already engaged in terrorism to disengage and rehabilitate

The statutory guidance *Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026* explains that children may be susceptible to radicalisation. Protecting children from this should be seen as part of schools' and colleges' wider safeguarding duties, and is similar in nature to protecting children from other forms of harm and abuse:

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

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

Terrorism is 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.

Although there is no single way of identifying whether a child is likely to be susceptible to radicalisation into terrorism, there are factors that may indicate concern.

As with other safeguarding risks, April Well Limited staff, volunteers and homestays should be alert to reports of changes in children's behaviour which could indicate that they may need help or protection. If there is a concern about potential radicalisation or a reason to believe that someone is at risk of becoming involved in terrorism or supporting it, a referral should be made to police, who will assess whether the person is suitable to be considered by a Channel panel for support (see below). If you are unsure whether a concern constitutes a Prevent referral, we encourage seeking advice from our DSL, local authority Prevent lead or police, in the first instance. Consideration should also be given to whether the person may be susceptible to radicalisation or may instead be more suitable for a different type of support or safeguarding referral. The guardianship organisation's DSL should be aware of local procedures for making a Prevent referral.

Channel/ Prevent Multi-Agency Panel (PMAP)

Channel/PMAP is a voluntary, confidential programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. Channel refers to panels operating in England and Wales, while PMAP operates in Scotland.

The programme uses a multi-agency approach to protect vulnerable people by:

- identifying individuals at risk
- assessing the nature and extent of that risk

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. Channel support is voluntary and requires informed consent from the individual or, where appropriate, a parent/carer before support begins. A Prevent referral does not require parental/carer consent.

Guidance on Channel is available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/channel-and-prevent-multi-agency-panel-pmap-guidance

Policy

Staff members, volunteers and homestays are expected to have a general understanding of the risks affecting children and young people, how to identify individual children who may be at risk of radicalisation and what to do to support them. This policy outlines a clear procedure for protecting children at risk of radicalisation. Our Student Handbook must explain in age-appropriate language how to recognise pressure to support terrorism, stay safe online and report concerns. Students should tell a trusted adult or contact our DSL on the 24-hour number below if worried about themselves or a friend; concerns will be taken seriously.

April Well Limited understands that the Prevent duty builds on existing partnerships for example with schools, parents and Local Safeguarding Partnerships. This policy considers the need for effective engagement with partners who are in key positions to spot signs of radicalisation (where this would not expose the child to further risk) and the need to be able to offer assistance and advice to those who raise concerns, and who require signposting to the right support mechanism. April Well Limited has a DSL who is responsible for dealing with any concerns in relation to radicalisation:

Designated Safeguarding Lead Contact Details

Role	Name	Telephone Number/s	Email
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Xiaoying Chi	+44 (0)7930 416543	info@aprilwell.co.uk
24-hour emergency contact	Xiaoying Chi	+44 (0)7930 416543	info@aprilwell.co.uk

April Well Limited understands the importance of awareness training for staff, volunteers and homestays to identify children at risk of being drawn into terrorism and to challenge extremist ideas (ideas connected to terrorist ideology). Staff, volunteer and homestay training needs are assessed internally with the DSL being the point of advice and support for staff, with regular safeguarding updates being circulated.

April Well Limited ensures that staff, volunteers and homestays have an awareness of the advice offered to schools by the Department for Education on the Prevent duty. The Government has launched the 'educate against hate' website which provides information, tools and resources needed to recognise and address extremism and radicalisation in children and young people.

Recognising risks and vulnerabilities of radicalisation

Children and young people can be drawn into violence or exposed to messages of extremist groups by many means, including family or friends influences, direct contact with extremist groups of organisations, **and** through the internet.

The risk of radicalisation may be combined with other vulnerabilities including:

Identity Crisis – Distance from cultural/religious heritage and uncomfortable with their place in the society around them;
Personal Crisis – Family tensions; sense of isolation; adolescence; low self-esteem; disassociating from existing friendship group and becoming involved with a new and different group of friends; searching for answers to questions about identity, faith and belonging;
Personal Circumstances – Migration; local community tensions; events affecting country or region of origin; alienation from UK values; having a sense of grievance that is triggered by personal experience of racism or discrimination or aspects of Government policy;
Unmet Aspirations – Perceptions of injustice; feeling of failure; rejection of civic life;
Criminality – Experiences of imprisonment; poor resettlement / reintegration; previous involvement with criminal groups.

Potential risk indicators include:
- Use of inappropriate language
- Possession of violent extremist literature or accessing extremist websites
- Behavioural changes
- The expression of extremist views
- Advocating violent actions and means
- Association with known extremists
- Articulating support for violent extremist causes or leaders
- Using extremist views to explain personal disadvantage
- Joining or seeking to join extremist organisations
- Seeking to recruit others to an extremist ideology.

Some children may be at risk due to living with or being in direct contact with known extremists. Indicators must be assessed in context, considering protective factors and the child's views. Faith, ethnicity, migration or SEND alone are not indicators. An identifiable ideology is not required for a Prevent referral.

April Well Limited will assess the specific risks of radicalisation for the students in our care and review this risk assessment at least annually.

Working with partners to protect children

April Well Limited recognises the opportunity that the company has to support partners including schools and medical professionals in helping to protect and support children and young people at risk of radicalisation. Disclosures and concerns can be reported to April Well Limited staff in relation

to our own students, and also in relation to other children and young people who our students may be in contact with.

Concerns that a child is being drawn into terrorism must be reported under our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy. Suspected terrorist activity should be reported to police or the anti-terrorist hotline on 0800 789 321. Non-emergency safeguarding concerns about susceptibility to radicalisation should follow the Prevent referral process.

Staff should be aware that anonymous reports of suspicious activity can be reported through Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or via police force websites. Anonymous reports of potential terrorist or extremist activity can also be made to the anti-terrorist hotline on 0800 789 321.

Awareness Training for Staff, Volunteers and Homestays

References to volunteers and homestays apply where April Well Limited uses such persons or arrangements. The Home Office has developed e-learning modules on Prevent / anti-radicalisation. These provide online training for staff, volunteers and homestays who can regularly self-brief on how to identify children and young people who are at risk of radicalisation and extremism. They can be used to complement the safeguarding training provided by April Well Limited:

• Prevent awareness course - offers an introduction to the Prevent duty.

• Prevent referrals course - supports staff to make Prevent referrals that are robust, informed and with good intention. This is primarily a course for DSLs, prevent professionals or equivalent roles who make prevent referrals.

• Channel or Prevent Multi-Agency Panel (PMAP) course - aimed at staff who may be asked to contribute to or sit on a multi-agency Channel panel.

• Refresher awareness course - this course is for anyone who has already completed the awareness course and would like a reminder of the key points. This can be undertaken annually.

All courses can be found at: Prevent duty training: Learn how to support people susceptible to radicalisation | Prevent duty training (support-people-susceptible-to-radicalisation.service.gov.uk)

At least one staff member must have completed appropriate Prevent training. Our DSL, who is also the Prevent Lead, will complete appropriate Prevent training. If using the Home Office training linked above, all three core courses should be completed: Prevent awareness, Prevent referrals, and Channel or Prevent Multi-Agency Panel (PMAP). Suitable anti-radicalisation training from other providers may be used instead. Training will be refreshed regularly, at least every two years; completion dates and certificates will be recorded.

We ask that all staff, and any homestays or emergency accommodation adults used or approved by April Well Limited where appropriate, complete the Prevent awareness course as a minimum.

Government website with advice offered to schools: https://educateagainsthate.com/

Procedure for reporting concerns

1. The process will vary depending on the circumstances, but when a concern is identified, the notice, check, share procedure will be applied as outlined in the Prevent Duty GOV.UK awareness course.

2. An April Well Limited staff member receives a report about a child or young person displaying indicators of radicalisation from a student, member of staff at a school, parent, homestay or other source by face-to-face disclosure, email or telephone call, or the staff member develops concerns that a child or young person is displaying possible indicators of radicalisation.

3. The staff member must follow the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and make an accurate, contemporaneous written record of the disclosure or concern, using the child's own words and open prompts such as Tell, Explain, Describe. Reporting and record submission must follow steps 4 and 5 below.

4. Report concerns immediately to the DSL using the contact details above; recording must not delay protective action. Call 999 in immediate danger. If the DSL is unavailable, contact the school DSL or police/local children's social care directly as appropriate. If the concern relates to the DSL's own conduct, report directly to the relevant Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO), police or children's social care as appropriate, in line with the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy; do not rely on reporting to the DSL concerned.

5. Submit a written record promptly and within 24 hours of the concern arising. Normally, submit it to the DSL. Where the DSL is unavailable or the concern relates to the DSL's own conduct, send it securely to the appropriate external professional or agency receiving the report under step 4. Do not submit allegations to the DSL concerned for handling. Record the date, time, recipient and advice received; preparing the record must not delay urgent reporting.

6. Where the DSL is available and is not the subject of the concern, the DSL will hold a safeguarding discussion or meeting, urgently where required, assess the threat and risk to the child, implement an action plan and review it until the concern is resolved. Otherwise, follow the receiving agency's safeguarding advice; the person who is the subject of the concern must not lead the review or control its records.

7. Where there is concern that a child may be on a pathway towards terrorism, make a Prevent referral to the police using the current national referral form and local procedures; do not wait for significant harm to occur. The DSL normally coordinates this; where the DSL is unavailable or the subject of the concern, use the external reporting route in step 4. Refer separately to children's social care where appropriate, and record decisions, reasons and agency advice securely.

Information Sharing

Sharing information on Prevent will be treated in the same way as sharing information about wider safeguarding concerns. Please refer to our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy for further details. Information will be shared lawfully, securely and only where necessary and proportionate. Parents/carers will normally be informed unless doing so increases risk or compromises safeguarding; reasons must be recorded. Case records will be accessible only to the DSL and authorised senior management, except where the concern relates to the DSL's own conduct. In that case, records must be held securely by the appropriate independent recipient under the allegations procedure, without routine access by the person concerned. Any disclosure to that person must follow agency advice and applicable law. Relevant information may be shared lawfully with statutory agencies.

Review

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

This policy was last reviewed on: 21/10/2026

Signed: 

Name: Xiaoying Chi

Role: Director and Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Date: 21/10/2026