Prevent Policy: Review Feb 2027

Revised Prevent duty guidance: for England and Wales - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Preventing Radicalisation Children/YP are vulnerable to extremist ideology and radicalisation. Similar to protecting them from other forms of harms and abuse, protecting children/YP from this risk should be a part of BT&E's safeguarding approach.

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

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

• 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. BT&E value freedom of speech and the expression of beliefs and ideology as fundamental rights underpinning our society's values.

Students and staff have the right to speak freely and voice their opinions. However, freedom comes with responsibility and free speech that is designed to manipulate the vulnerable or that leads to violence and harm of others goes against the moral principles in which freedom of speech is valued.

Free speech is not an unqualified privilege; it is subject to laws and policies governing equality, human rights, community safety and community cohesion. There is no single way of identifying whether an individual is likely to be susceptible to an extremist ideology.

Background factors combined with specific influences such as family and friends may contribute to the vulnerability. Similarly, radicalisation can occur through many different methods (such as social media or the internet) and settings (such as within the home). The normalisation of extreme views may also make children and young people vulnerable to future manipulation and exploitation.

BT&E is clear that this exploitation and radicalisation must be viewed as a safeguarding concern and that protecting them from the risk of radicalisation is part of BT&E's safeguarding duty. The designated safeguarding lead (and deputy) are aware of local procedures for making a Prevent referral.

Definitions of radicalisation and extremism, and indicators of vulnerability to radicalisation are in Appendix 2 28. Prevent Duty and Channel Prevent The DSL is also the Prevent Lead and will assess the level of risk and put actions in place to reduce and monitor that risk.

All schools and colleges are subject to a duty to have "due regard to the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism" (section 26, Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015). This is known as The Prevent Duty and is part of our wider safeguarding obligations.

Designated safeguarding leads and other senior leaders familiarise themselves with the revised Prevent duty guidance: for England and Wales, especially paragraphs 57-76, which are specifically concerned with schools and colleges (and covers childcare).

We follow the guidance in terms of four general themes: risk assessment, working in partnership, staff training, and IT policies. BT&E has a Prevent Single Point of Contact (SPOC) who is the lead within the organisation for safeguarding in relation to protecting individuals from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism: The SPOC for BT&E is Graham Coffey.

Channel is a multi-agency approach to provide support to individuals who are at risk of being drawn into terrorist related activity. It is led by the Staffordshire Police Counter-Terrorism Unit, and it aims to:
• Establish an effective multi-agency referral and intervention process to identify vulnerable individuals.
• Safeguard individuals who might be vulnerable to being radicalised, so that they are not at risk of being drawn into terrorist-related activity;
• Provide early intervention to protect and divert people away from the risks they face and reduce vulnerability.
• The Channel programme focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. It provides a mechanism for schools to make referrals if they are concerned that an individual might be vulnerable to radicalisation. An individual's participation in the programme is entirely voluntary at all stages.
• Schools have a duty to cooperate with the Channel programme in the carrying out of its functions, and with the Police in providing information about an individual who is referred to Channel (Section 38, Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015). Guidance Documents: • The Prevent Duty. • Educate Against Hate • ACT Early | Prevent radicalisation