



TALBOT HEATH SCHOOL “Honour Before Honours”

PREVENT POLICY

Date adopted: 5th December 2023

Date for next adoption: Autumn Term 2024

Reviewed by: FGB Committee

The national Prevent Strategy aims to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

The objectives of Prevent are to;

- Tackle the ideological causes of terrorisms
- Intervene early to support people susceptible to radicalisation
- Enable people who have already engaged in terrorism to disengage and rehabilitate.

Talbot Heath School, working with local partners, families and communities, seeks to play a key role in ensuring that the children and young people who attend the schools / settings or use its services are safe from the threat of terrorism. Prevent is part of the school's wider responsibility for Safeguarding and this policy is therefore linked to the school's Policy for Safeguarding and Child Protection and should be read in conjunction with the additional following documents:

Working Together to Safeguard Children (March 2018) (WT)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2>

WT refers to the non-statutory advice: *Information sharing* (March 2018)

Prevent Duty Guidance: for England and Wales (March 2023) (Prevent).

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>

Prevent is supplemented by non-statutory advice and a briefing note:

The Prevent duty: Safeguarding learners vulnerable to radicalisation.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-prevent-duty-safeguarding-learners-vulnerable-to-radicalisation>

The use of social media for on-line radicalisation (July 2015)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-use-of-social-media-for-online-radicalisation>

The Prevent strategy identifies that young people are more likely to be vulnerable to violent extremist or terrorist narrative, including non-violent extremism which can create an atmosphere conducive to terrorism and can popularise views which terrorists exploit. The Government's Prevent Strategy defines extremism as 'Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs'.

We believe that Talbot Heath School should be a safe place where children and young people can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and the extremist ideas that are part of the terrorist ideology, and learn how to challenge such ideas.

In order to fulfil our Prevent Duty, we undertake to do the following:

- Actively promote Fundamental British Values, including mutual respect, tolerance and democratic participation, as part of our wider SMSC / PSRE programmes as well as within other subject areas and assemblies using a range of resources including Educate against hate <https://www.educateagainsthate.com/>;
- Respect learner and staff diversity, encouraging freedom and openness;
- Assess the risk of children in our schools / settings / activities being drawn in to terrorism; using the prevent risk assessment templates <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-risk-assessment-templates>

- Maintain robust safeguarding policies which take in to account the policies and procedures set out by Pan-Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership and Identify extremism / radicalisation as issues to be reported promptly to the Staff lead;
- Identify a nominated Staff Lead (DSL)
- Identify nominated safeguarding governors
- Train staff so that they have the knowledge and confidence to identify children at risk of being drawn into terrorism and to challenge extremist ideas which can be used to legitimise terrorism:
- Conduct due diligence checks on groups / individuals seeking to hire or use school premises;
- Conduct due diligence checks on visitors to school, particularly visiting speakers, whether invited by children or staff. Speakers are from recognised, reputable organisations and a member of TH staff is always present to ensure that contact and content is appropriate. A Prevent Form is completed for all external speakers and a register is kept of visiting speakers.
- Conduct due diligence checks on contractors working on the school sites;
- Ensure children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in school;
- Review our policies annually with due regard to the Prevent Strategy and to risk assess the possibility of any TH pupils becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.
- Train staff regularly and ensure that all new staff read the Prevent Policy in addition to other significant policies.

Possible indicators of Risk

- Racist graffiti / symbols / comments made in school;
- Speaking out or writing in favour of extremist ideas in school work;
- Extreme comments shared on social media;
- Distribution of extreme or terrorist propaganda among other pupils;
- Vulnerable students being influenced by others (although we are aware of a need to avoid over-simplified assessments of who might be 'vulnerable'), because of the existence of one or more factors, which may include:
 - An identity crisis, involving an individual's distance from their cultural / religious heritage, including peer / family / faith group rejection;
 - A personal crisis, including family tension / social isolation / friendship issues;
 - Personal circumstances, such as migration, experience of racism;
 - Unmet aspirations;
 - Criminality;
 - Experience of poverty, disadvantage, discrimination or social exclusion;
- Association with those known to be involved in extremism (including via the internet);
- A significant shift in the child / young person's behaviour or outward appearance, particularly involving conflict with his / her family and / or faith group;
- Travel for extended periods of time to international locations known to be associated with extremism;
- Disguising of a child's identity, eg in documentation;
- A simplistic or flawed understanding of religious / political / global issues;
- A significant adult or other in the child / young person's life who has extremist views or sympathies;
- Critical risk factors, being:
 - Contact with extremist recruiters;
 - Articulation of support for extremist causes / leaders;
 - The possession of extremist literature;
 - Using extremist narratives and a global ideology to explain personal disadvantage;
 - Justifying the use of violence to solve societal issues;
 - Membership of extremist organisations.

Supportive Interventions

- Educate against hate <https://www.educateagainsthate.com/> provides Government advice and trusted resources to help safeguard students from radicalisation, build resilience to all types of extremism and promote shared values.
- Channel is the multi-agency approach to protect people at risk from radicalisation and aims to: identify individuals at risk of being drawn into terrorism; assess the nature and extent of that risk; develop the most appropriate support plan for the individuals concerned.
- Should concerns require support from other agencies, the following are ways in which terrorism and extremism can be reported:
 - Anti-terrorist hotline: 0800 789 321 <https://www.met.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/ath/possible-terrorist-activity/>
 - Crime stoppers: 0800 555 111 <https://www.dorset.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us-beta/contact-us/#:~:text=By%20phone%200800%20555%20111,a%20crime%20or%20suspicious%20behaviour.>
 - The local police force 999
 - Relevant police force: 101
 - www.gov.uk/report-suspicious-activity-to-mi5
 - and the DfE dedicated telephone helpline and mailbox for non-emergency advice for staff and governors: 020 7340 7264 and counter-extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk.
 - **the Safeguarding Referral Unit at Dorset Police email: sru@dorset.pnn.police.uk**
- To report any online terrorist-related material: www.gov.uk/report-terrorism