



# TALBOT HEATH SCHOOL “Honour Before Honours”

## PREVENT POLICY

**Date adopted:** 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025

**Date for next adoption:** Autumn Term 2026

**Reviewed by:** FGB Committee

**As a school, we will make reasonable adjustments to this policy, in line with the SEND Code of Practice (2014) and the Equality Act (2010), for students with SEND.**

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 (2023) (WT)*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2> WT refers to the non-statutory advice: *Information sharing (May 2024 )*

*Prevent Duty Guidance: for England and Wales (March 2024) (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 (Sept 2023)*

<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 / PSHE 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 are appropriate. A Prevent check 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.

### **Risk Factors**

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:

- Adverse childhood experience
- Disability, SEND, Neurodiversity
- Domestic abuse
- Access to extremist material
- Family breakdown or dispute
- Financial problems
- History of violence
- Homelessness
- Links to criminality
- Loss or bereavement
- Mental Health
- Victim of physical, emotional, sexual abuse
- 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;
- A significant adult or other in the child / young person's life who has extremist views or sympathies;

### **Concerning Behaviours**

- Persistent and/ or unexplained absence (Travel for extended periods of time to international locations known to be associated with extremism)
- Abusive behaviour
- Anti-social behaviour
- Social isolation
- Change in appearance (A significant shift in the child / young person's behaviour or outward appearance, particularly involving conflict with his / her family and / or faith group)
- Closed to challenge
- Confrontational
- Concerning use of the internet (Extreme comments shared on social media)
- Expression of extremist views (Speaking out or writing in favour of extremist ideas in school work)
- Interest in conspiracy narratives
- Interest in extremist groups/ causes (Association with those known to be involved in extremism, including via the internet)
- Interest in weapons
- Legitimising the use of violence
- Quick to anger/ use of violence
- Seeking to recruit (Distribution of extreme or terrorist propaganda among other pupils)

- Self-harm
- Substance misuse
- Sudden abandonment of interests
- Support for gender based violence
- “Them and us” language
- Use of inflammatory language
- Use of symbolism linked to extremism (racist graffiti)
- Disguising of a child’s identity, e.g. in documentation;
- A simplistic or flawed understanding of religious / political / global issues;
- 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.

### Making a Prevent Concern Referral

For advice call the Prevent Line 0800 011 3764 (for those with a speech or hearing impairment textphone on 18001 101. This line offers advice.

To make a Prevent referral the national referral form should be used

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/making-a-referral-to-prevent>

The DSL will complete the form and send it through to the police.

When making a Prevent referral include:

- Referrer’s details; name, organisation, job title, contact information.
- Date of referral.
- Detail of the person at risk ( name, religion, date of birth, gender, place of birth, ethnicity, nationality, social media name, first language, immigration status, additional family details)
- Referrer’s relationship to the person
- Provide detail of the context and circumstances of the concern.
- Describe concerning behaviours.

### **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://crimestoppers-uk.org/news-campaigns/community/Dorset>
- - The local police force 999
- - Relevant police force: 101
- - [www.gov.uk/report-suspicious-activity-to-mi5](http://www.gov.uk/report-suspicious-activity-to-mi5)
- - 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](mailto:sru@dorset.pnn.police.uk)**

To report any online terrorist-related material: [www.gov.uk/report-terrorism](http://www.gov.uk/report-terrorism)