

Tuition, Medical and Behaviour Support Service

Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy

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1

Introduction	3
Statutory Duties	3
Non-statutory Guidance	3
Other related policies within TMBSS	3
What is Prevent?	3
What is Radicalisation?	4
Risk Factors and Indicators	4
Roles and responsibilities	5
Curriculum and teaching approaches	5
ICT & E Safety	6
Staff Training	7
Prevent Risk Assessment	7
Working in partnership	7
Use of external agencies and speakers	7
Referral process	7
Monitoring and review	8

Introduction

This 'Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy' is part of our commitment to keeping children safe. All staff working in *TMBSS* recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility irrespective of the role they undertake or whether their role has direct contact or responsibility for students or not.

This policy draws on both statutory and non-statutory guidance:

Statutory Duties

- Counter Terrorism and Security Act (2019)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (2024)
- Prevent Duty Guidance (2023)
- Working together to Safeguard Children (2023)

Non-statutory Guidance

- The Prevent Duty: Departmental advice for schools and childcare providers (DfE 2022)
- Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools: Departmental advice for maintained school (DfE 2014)
- Improving the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of pupils: supplementary information (DfE 2014)

Other related policies within TMBSS

- E Safety Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Equality Policy
- Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) Policy
- Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural (SMSC) Policy
- Staff Handbook

What is Prevent

The aim of Prevent is to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. Delivery of Prevent is grounded in early intervention and safeguarding.

The UK Government remains absolutely committed to protecting freedom of expression. But preventing terrorism will mean challenging extremist (and non-violent) ideas that are also part of a terrorist ideology, including instances where there is an interest in extreme violence or mass casualty attacks. Prevent also facilitates interventions to stop people moving from extremist activity to terrorist-related activity.

Prevent addresses all forms of terrorism and we continue to prioritise according to the threat posed to our national security. The allocation of resources will be proportionate to the threats we face. The most significant of these threats is currently from terrorist activity associated with Islamist extremism. Extreme right–wing ideology is a growing threat. Other ideologies are less present, but still have the potential to motivate and/or be used to justify terrorism.

The dominance of individuals or small groups acting without direction or material support from an organised terrorist group, the increasing diversity of terrorist groups overseas, and the societal impacts of technological change remain a concern.

Prevent has three objectives in CONTEST:

- to tackle the ideological causes of terrorism;
- to intervene early to support people to stop them from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism; and
- to rehabilitate those who have engaged in terrorist activity.

Prevent continues to monitor emerging radicalisation trends and ideologies to establish whether they represent a terrorism risk or play a role in radicalising people. Practitioners should not only be alert to violent extremism but also non-violent extremism, including certain divisive or intolerant narratives which can be reasonably linked to terrorist ideologies. Information and analysis on extremism and terrorist ideologies is available from the Commission for Countering Extremism.

What is Radicalisation

There is no single pathway to being radicalised. There are many factors which can, either alone or combined, lead someone to subscribe to extremist ideology, and thereafter be drawn into or become an advocate of terrorism. These factors often include exposure to radicalising influences, real and perceived grievances (often created or exacerbated through grievance narratives espoused by extremists), and a person's own susceptibility.

One objective of Prevent is to intervene early to stop people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. This means providing bespoke interventions for people who are susceptible to radicalisation. People might be susceptible to radicalisation due to a number of circumstances, needs, or other underlying factors. It should be noted that there is no single model of a person's radicalisation journey or single profile of a radicalised person.

Risk Factors and Indicators for Young People

There is no single way of identifying who is at risk of being radicalised into terrorism or supporting terrorism. Factors may include:

- peer or family pressure
- influence to support an ideology from other people or via the internet
- bullying
- being a victim or perpetrator of crime
- anti-social behaviour
- family tensions
- hate crime
- lack of self-esteem or identity
- personal or political grievances

Role of the Governing Body

• It is the role of the governing body to ensure that that the Service meets its statutory duties with regard to preventing radicalisation

Role of the Executive Head of Service

It is the Executive Head of Service's role to:

- Ensure that TMBSS and its staff respond to preventing radicalisation on a day-today basis
- Ensure that the curriculum addresses the issues involved in radicalisation
- Ensure that staff conduct is consistent with preventing radicalisation
- Report to the governing body on these matters

Role of Designated Safeguarding Lead

It is the role of the safeguarding lead to:

- Ensure that staff understand the issues of radicalisation, are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability of radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns
- Receive safeguarding concerns about children and young people who may be vulnerable to the risk of radicalisation or are showing signs of radicalisation
- Making referrals to appropriate agencies with regard to concerns about radicalisation
- Liaise with partners, including the local authority and police
- Offer support and advice to staff
- Monitor and report any hate based behaviour as part of our Behaviour and Child Protection Policies

Role of staff

• It is the role of staff to understand the issues of radicalisation, are able to recognise signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know to refer concerns to the designated lead promptly.

Curriculum and teaching approaches

Children and young people continue to make up a significant proportion of Channel cases, and in recent years there have been concerns regarding increased numbers of learners being arrested for terrorism-related offences.

Educators are often in a unique position, through interacting with learners on a regular basis, to be able to identify concerning behaviour changes that may indicate they are susceptible to radicalisation.

Staff should not only be alert to violent extremism but also non-violent extremism, including certain divisive or intolerant narratives which can reasonably be linked to terrorism.

Educate Against Hate and GOV.UK Prevent duty training provide further information on extremist narratives.

We will ensure that all of our teaching approaches help our pupils build resilience to extremism and give pupils a positive sense of identity through the development of critical thinking skills. We will ensure that all our staff are equipped to recognise extremism and are skilled and confident enough to challenge it.

We will strive to eradicate the myths and assumptions that can lead to some young people becoming alienated and disempowered, especially where the narrow approaches children may experience may make it harder for them to challenge or question these radical influences. Within TMBSS this will be achieved primarily through PSHE, RE, but also other curriculum areas, external speakers and through additional formal and informal opportunities.

We will be flexible to adapt our teaching approaches, as appropriate, so as to address specific issues as to become even more relevant to the current issues of extremism and radicalisation.

Our goal is to build mutual respect and understanding and to promote the use of dialogue not violence as a form of conflict resolution. We will achieve this by using a curriculum that includes:

- Open discussion and debate
- Work on anti-violence and restorative approach addressed through the curriculum and the behaviour policy
- Focussed educational programmes.
- Ensure that we provide a "safe space" for children to understand and discuss sensitive topics, those linked to radicalisation and terrorism, and learn (according to their age and level of development) how to question and challenge these ideas in a politically balanced way.

At TMBSS we will promote fundamental British Values and the values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs. We will teach and encourage pupils to respect one another and to respect and tolerate difference, especially those of a different faith or not faith. It is indeed our most fundamental responsibility to keep out students safe and prepare them for life in modern multi-cultural Britain and globally.

ICT & E Safety

At TMBSS we will ensure that children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in Centre's by having secure filters which will block inappropriate content.

There is a robust monitoring and filtering system in place to identify potential online risks and support online safety.

Pupils and staff are aware of the procedures in Centre for reporting any concerns relating to inappropriate content found on the internet.

Pupils and staff are asked to sign the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) to confirm that they understand what is acceptable.

Please refer to the TMBSS E-safety Policy.

Staff training

Statutory guidance refers to the importance of Prevent awareness training to equip staff to identify children at risk of being drawn into terrorism and to challenge extremist ideas.

All staff complete the E learning Home Office Prevent Training. This is updated every 2 years. New staff members complete the E learning training within the first half term of joining the service as part of the safeguarding induction procedure.

Prevent Risk Assessment

The Prevent Risk Assessment is updated annually and identifies areas for additional training needs. It allows TMBSS to implement the Prevent Duty throughout the service,

Working in partnership

We will work in partnership with local partners, families and communities in our efforts to raise awareness of radicalisation and supporting us with implementing the Prevent Duty.

TMBSS will engage effectively with parents/families to assist and advise of support mechanisms if concern is raised.

The Service will ensure that safeguarding arrangements consider the policies and procedures of Shropshire Safeguarding Children Board.

Use of external agencies and speakers

At TMBSS we encourage the use of external agencies or speakers to enrich the experiences of our pupils. We will ensure that any visitor coming into the Service has been 'checked' and vetted appropriately in accordance with Keeping Children Safe in Education September 2024. Such vetting is to ensure that we do not unwittingly use agencies that contradict each other with their messages or that are inconsistent with, or are in complete opposition to, the Service's values and ethos.

Referral process

If a member of staff has a concern about a particular pupil/s they should follow the Service's normal safeguarding procedures, including discussing with the Service's designated safeguarding lead as set out in the Child Protection/Safeguarding Policy.

Complete Prevent National Referral the form National Prevent referral form (shropshiresafeguardingcommunitypartnership.co.uk) and е mail it to ctu_gateway@westmidlands.police.uk

Visit <u>ACT Early</u> to find out more about the signs that someone may be vulnerable to radicalisation.

You can also call the national police Prevent advice line <u>0800 011 3764</u>, in confidence, to share your concerns with our specially trained officers.

Please click this link for local prevent contact prevent-pp-slides-september-2024.pptx (live.com)

Please click this link to access the Shropshire Hate Related Incident form <u>hate-related-incident-reporting-form-shropshire-schools.docx (live.com)</u>

Monitoring and review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Governing body but may need to be adapted as and when new guidance or policy is released.

The Prevent Risk Assessment is reviewed annually by the Link Governor for Safeguarding.

Parents will be issued with a hard copy of this policy on request. This policy will also be made available to parents via the Service website.

The Executive Head of Service will actively evaluate the effectiveness of this policy by monitoring the staff group's understanding and application of the procedures within this policy as their overall duty to safeguard children.