PREVENT DUTY POLICY

Policy Owner	**Applies to**	**Superseded documents**
PPS DSL's, Head of Compliance and Head of HR	Prior Park Schools (Trust wide)	Prevent Duty Policy v7
Associated documents Safeguarding Policy E-Safety Policy Curriculum Policy PSHE Policy Personal Development Policy Behaviour Policy Visiting Speaker Policy Reception and Visitors Policy SMSC and FBV Policy Curriculum Policy Conducting a Student Search Policy	**Review frequency** Every year (unless the legislation/regulations update before this time) **Implementation date** 14 September 2026	**Legal Framework** KCSIE 2026 Working Together to Safeguard Children 2026Prevent Duty: Guidance for England and Wales 2023 Part 1 of Schedule 6 to the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (CTSA 2015) Crime and Policing Act 2026

This policy is reviewed annually, or more regularly as required, prior to approval by Trustees, where applicable.

Last reviewed by:	PPS DSLs (Mrs I Burton, Mrs S James and Miss M Porro) Head of HR (Miss K Niec) and Head of Compliance (Miss E Wickham)
Date last reviewed:	August 2026
Approved by Trustees:	Approved by BOT
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Safeguarding and child protection are at the forefront of all that we do and underpin all relevant aspects of process and policy development. Ultimately, all systems, processes and policies should operate with the best interests of the child at their heart.

1. Introduction

Prior Park Schools (PPS) is a family of Christian schools based in Bath and Gibraltar. Prior Park College (PPC) and Prior Park Paragon (PPP) are incorporated in England as Prior Park Educational Trust Ltd. Prior Park Gibraltar (PPG), is incorporated in Gibraltar as Prior Park School Ltd. Both are companies limited by guarantee and registered charities.

The Prior Park Schools mission, underpinned by shared values, is to steward a thriving family of communities with love for the young people they serve at their heart. These vibrant communities cultivate creativity, foster integrity, and transform lives.

Prior Park Schools Values:

Curiosity – Generosity – Courage

2. Definitions

Children and young adults may be susceptible to radicalisation into terrorism. Similar to protecting children from other forms of harms and abuse, protecting children from this risk is a part of our safeguarding approach.

“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.

“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.

The use of ‘Staff’ throughout this policy refers to all employees, Trustees, volunteers and agency workers.

DSL refers to the Designated Safeguarding Lead

DDSL refers to the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

3. Aims

The overall aim of the Home Office's counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST, is to reduce the risk from terrorism to the UK, its citizens and interests overseas, so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence. Prevent remains one of the key pillars of CONTEST, alongside the other three 'P' work 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

Prevents Aims

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

4. Scope

Protecting children and young adults from the risk of radicalisation is part of PPS wider safeguarding duties and is treated in the same vein as protecting children and young adults from other harms (e.g. drugs, gangs, neglect, sexual exploitation), whether these come from within the school, the family, or outside influences.

Staff must be alert to changes in children and young adults' behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Children and young adults at risk of radicalisation may display different signs or seek to hide their views.

The DSLs receive appropriate training, and it is the responsibility of the DSLs to raise awareness of the risks of radicalisation amongst the staff, ensuring that staff Safeguarding Training (see Safeguarding Policy) takes the Prevent Duty into account, including filtering and monitoring. The DSLs receive appropriate Prevent training and will ensure that all staff receive regular updates on emerging radicalisation risks, including online harms, misinformation, disinformation, conspiracy theories, artificial intelligence (AI) generated content and extremist material disseminated through digital platforms.

PPS recognises its duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 to have 'due regard to the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism'.

PPS accepts the Department for Education's definition of 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. Terrorist groups very often draw on extremist ideas developed by extremist organisations.

5. Purpose

The purpose of our Prevent Duty Policy is, therefore, to combat the radicalisation of potentially susceptible children and young adults by protecting them from extremist views and combating those views should they arise within the remit of schools.

Furthermore, PPS will strive to offer support to those staff or students who have been exposed to such material.

Fulfilling this duty involves the undertaking of efforts to identify potentially radicalising factors and material (including access to it, i.e. the internet, and specific sites) and potentially susceptible youths, as well as the management of these risks through existing safeguarding measures, the teaching of British values, and the providing of a system of support and guidance.

PPS wishes to emphasise that the Prevent Duty Policy is not intended to stop students debating controversial issues. It simply wishes to provide a safe environment within which they can do so, while also making them aware of the risks associated with terrorism, thereby providing them with the knowledge and skills to be able to challenge and reject extremist arguments. PPS recognises that radicalisation may occur through both online and offline means, including social media platforms, messaging applications, online gaming environments, livestreaming services, encrypted communications, online forums and generative artificial intelligence tools.

There are various reasons why a young person might become interested in extremism:

- a search for answers to questions about identity, faith and belonging
- a desire for 'adventure' and excitement
- a desire to enhance self-esteem of the individual and promote 'street cred'
- the discovery of and identification with a charismatic individual and, through them, attraction to a group which can offer identity, social network and support
- a sense of grievance that can be triggered by personal experiences of racism or discrimination

PPS has a legal duty to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and this is an aspect of safeguarding. Being drawn into terrorism includes not just violent extremism but also non-violent extremism, which can create an atmosphere conducive to terrorism and can popularise views which terrorists exploit. Our schools should be safe spaces in which children and young adults can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and the extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology, and learn how to challenge these ideas.

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. (Managing risk of radicalisation in your education setting - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

It is possible to protect people from extremist ideology and intervene to prevent those at risk of radicalisation being drawn to terrorism. As with other safeguarding risks, staff should be alert to changes in children's behaviour, which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Staff should use their judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately which may include the designated safeguarding lead (or a deputy) making a Prevent referral. (Making a referral to Prevent - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

For PPG, referrals can be made at: Royal Gibraltar Police - Reporting Possible Terrorist Activity

Channel: For UK Schools, Channel is a voluntary, confidential support programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. 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. A representative from the school or college may be asked to attend the Channel panel to help with this assessment. An individual's engagement with the programme is

entirely voluntary at all stages. Consent from the young person being referred to Channel must be agreed prior to their acceptance on to the support service.

The DSL should consider if it would be appropriate to share any information with the new school or college in advance of a child leaving. For example, information that would allow the new school or college to continue supporting victims of abuse or those who are currently receiving support through the 'Channel' programme and have that support in place for when the child arrives.

Statutory guidance on Channel is available at: Channel and Prevent Multi-Agency Panel (PMAP) guidance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk).

For PPG, staff can access support and guidance from the Royal Gibraltar Police, Counter Terrorism department. They provide a wide range of resources and support in protecting against terrorism. Royal Gibraltar Police - Counter Terrorism

6. Prevent Training

For schools and childcare providers to fulfil the Prevent Duty it is essential that staff receive adequate training so that they can identify children and young adults who may be vulnerable to radicalisation and know what to do when they are identified. All staff will receive Prevent Training as part of their induction, and an annual update will be included in the Safeguarding refresher training given to all staff at the start of each academic year.

The Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) for PPS must undertake Prevent Awareness training.

All staff will receive Prevent training appropriate to their role during induction and through regular safeguarding updates. Prevent awareness will form part of annual safeguarding refresher training. All staff should read the online general awareness training module provided by Channel, an early-stage support system for those students identified as being potentially susceptible to radicalisation

If a member of staff has a concern about a particular student, they should follow the school's normal safeguarding procedures, including discussing with the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead, and where deemed necessary, with children and young adults' social care/police (see Safeguarding Policy).

If staff have concerns that a child may be vulnerable to radicalisation, they must report these concerns immediately to the DSL or DDSL. Decisions regarding Prevent referrals or referrals to Channel will normally be coordinated through the DSL and safeguarding processes.

There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to an extremist ideology. Therefore, staff must use their professional judgement in identifying children and young adults who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately.

The Home Office has developed three e-learning modules:

- Prevent awareness e-learning offers an introduction to the Prevent duty.
- Prevent referrals e-learning supports staff to make Prevent referrals that are **robust, informed** and with **good intention**.
- Channel awareness e-learning is aimed at staff who may be asked to contribute to or sit on a multi-agency Channel panel.

Educate Against Hate, is a government website designed to support school and college teachers and leaders to help them safeguard their students from radicalisation and extremism. The platform

provides free information and resources to help staff identify and address the risks, as well as build resilience to radicalisation.

The Safeguarding and Prevent - The Education and Training Foundation (et- foundation.co.uk) provides online training modules for practitioners, leaders and managers, to support staff and governors/Board members in outlining their roles and responsibilities under the duty.
London Grid for Learning has also produced useful resources on Prevent (Online Safety Resource Centre - London Grid for Learning (lgfl.net)

7. Visiting Speakers

The schools often invite speakers from the wider community to give talks to enrich our students' experience. PPS recognises the enormous benefit gained by students from speakers from all walks of life. Both the school and students greatly appreciate the time and effort that Visiting Speakers put into their presentations.

All visiting speakers, even those recommended by staff, students, and/or parents are to be checked and deemed suitable before being formally invited by members of Prior Park Staff.

The member of staff inviting the speaker must assess the risk of the speaker bringing terrorist or extremist material into the school or exposing our students to the threat of radicalisation.

Checks on speakers should include, but are not limited to; internet searches, personal recommendations and working with respected public organisations. Where a risk assessment indicates that a speaker may warrant closer attention, their invitation should be discussed with the Head and a referral to the Police may be appropriate.

The scope of the checks will be determined by the frequency and nature of the visits. A one-off or very occasional visitors can be subjected to “preliminary” checks which includes: the member of staff completing a Due Diligence Form (evidence checks), and a Risk Assessment being completed [Regular visitors must be subjected to the full rate of employment checks as prescribed by Part 3 KCSIE].

All Visiting Speakers will be asked to sign and confirm a declaration at reception when they arrive.

Any concerns relating to external speakers and visitors to the school should be dealt with in line with our safeguarding policy.

For further information please refer to the schools’ own Visiting Speaker Policy and Procedure.

8. Promotion of British Values

PPS will seek to build students’ resilience to radicalisation through the promotion of fundamental British values and democratic principles, thus enabling them to challenge extremist views within a safe and informed environment.

PSHE/PD classes will help students prepare for life in modern Britain and creates a zero-tolerance culture for offensive behaviour and views. Our PSHE/PD curriculum will provide students with the time and opportunity to explore and engage with issues such as sexism, misogyny/misandry, homophobic, bi-phobic and sexual violence and sexual harassment. It will also explore themes of extremism.
Our aim is to equip students with the knowledge and ability to understand and challenge unacceptable or offensive behaviour.

PSHE/PD classes should, therefore, directly address the issues raised by the Prevent Duty, as well as teaching students about British values, Democracy and how the government works, and British law.

It is important for students to engage with political and national events and developments, and all efforts should be made to incorporate these into both curricular and extra-curricular activities. For instance, the holding of mock political debates around elections.

PPS also promotes respect and sensitivity for other cultures and peoples through both the curriculum and extra-curricular activities. Many elements of British values will already be taught within a range of subjects in the curriculum.

Our approach to preparing students for modern British life will be underpinned by schools' behaviour policies and pastoral support. The curriculum will also develop students' media literacy, critical thinking skills and ability to identify misinformation, disinformation, conspiracy theories and extremist narratives encountered online.

9. ICT Use

All students and staff must be aware of the potential dangers of the availability online of extremist doctrines and be alert to the risk of radicalisation.

Such material should, so far as is reasonably practicable, be made inaccessible through appropriate filtering and monitoring systems. The Trust will ensure that filtering and monitoring systems are reviewed at least annually by the designated senior leader responsible for filtering and monitoring, supported by the DSL and appropriate IT staff. Records of reviews and resulting actions will be maintained.

Where this fails any interaction with extremist websites or materials must be recorded and reported. The DSL (or E-Safety Lead) should then talk to the student or member of staff in question. Further information can be found in the school's own E-Safety Policy/Online Safety Policy.

Everyone must all know their responsibilities around filtering and monitoring in line with the safeguarding policy around accessing online content and e-safety.

Training is provided annually to all staff to reinforce their responsibilities and the systems in place across the schools and Trust.

10. Related Policies and Further Guidance

Related Policies:

- Safeguarding Policy
- E-Safety Policy/Online Safety Policy
- Safer Recruitment Policy
- Curriculum Policy
- PSHE Policy
- Personal Development Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Visiting Speaker Policy
- Reception and Visitors Policy
- SMSC and FBV Policy

- Conducting a Student Search Policy
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity Policy
- Acceptable Use of IT Services for Students

Further Guidance:
Prevent duty guidance- Home Office guidance
Prevent duty: additional advice for schools and childcare providers - DfE advice
Educate Against Hate website - DfE and Home Office advice
Prevent for FE and Training - Education and Training Foundation (ETF)
Extremism and Radicalisation Safeguarding Resources – Resources by London Grid for Learning
Managing risk of radicalisation in your education setting – DfE guidance

Notice, Check, Share

Notice, check, share is the process that should be followed when spotting the signs of radicalisation and subsequently deciding if a Prevent referral should be submitted.

Notice: If you notice behaviours that cause you concern, then you may want to consider whether the person is susceptible to radicalisation. There could be many different reasons for these behaviours, not just radicalisation. It's important to understand the context, and why these changes are happening, before jumping to any conclusions.

Check: You may wish to discuss your concern organisationally, with the person responsible for safeguarding, such as the designated safeguarding lead. Checking before sharing a concern is a way of making sure you have gathered as much relevant information as possible before making your referral.

Share: Once you have gathered the relevant information, it is essential to share a concern and make a referral to the police using the National Prevent referral form. In some cases, you may do this directly. Sometimes, where appropriate, the organisational safeguarding lead or equivalent, or the local authority may do this on your behalf.

- **Emergency:** Call **999** immediately if you face an immediate threat.
- **Suspicious Activity:** Report concerns via the Action Counters Terrorism (ACT) reporting tool.
- **Prevent / Radicalisation Concerns:** Contact the local Prevent team via Avon and Somerset Police at **0117 945 5539** or email channelsw@avonandsomerset.police.uk
- **General Network Information:** Learn more through Counter Terrorism Policing South West