

The Prevent Duty in Schools

The Prevent duty is the duty in the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 on specified authorities, in the exercise of their functions, to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorist/extremist activities.

In order to fulfil the Prevent duty, it is essential that staff at St Katherine's are able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation, and know what to do when they are identified. It forms part of our Safeguarding duty of care. Here at St Katherine's we aim to build pupils' resilience to radicalisation by promoting fundamental British values and enabling them to challenge extremist views. At St Katherine's we will not inhibit open discussion about controversial issues, in fact we should provide a safe place for such debates to take place.

The statutory guidance on the Prevent duty summarises the requirements on schools and childcare providers in terms of four general themes: risk assessment, working in partnership, staff training and IT policies.

Risk Assessment - The general risks affecting children and young people may vary from area to area, and according to their age. There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to a terrorist ideology. As with managing 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. Children at risk of radicalisation may display different signs or seek to hide their views. School staff should use their professional judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately.

Engagement factors - are sometimes referred to as "psychological hooks". They include needs, susceptibilities, motivations and contextual influences and together map the individual pathway into terrorism

Intent factors - describe the mind-set that is associated with a readiness to use violence and address what the individual would do and to what end.

Capability to Cause Harm - What the individual is capable of is therefore a key consideration when assessing risk of harm to the public.

Working in Partnership - The Prevent duty builds on existing local partnership arrangements. Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) are responsible for co-ordinating what is done by local agencies. Other partners, in particular the police and also civil society organisations, may be able to provide advice and support to schools. Effective engagement with parents / the family is also important as they are in a key position to spot signs of radicalisation.

Staff Training - At St. Katherine's we will ensure that the Designated Safeguarding Lead undertakes Prevent awareness training and is able to provide advice and support to other members of staff on protecting children from the risk of radicalisation.

IT Policies - The statutory guidance makes clear the need for schools to ensure that children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in schools. At St. Katherine's we will always ensure that suitable filtering is in place to prevent such influences.

The Channel Programme process involves; 1) **Identification** of those at risk of radicalisation. 2) **Referral** – to the Channel Police Practitioner. 3) **Multi- Agency Panel** – LA, Police, etc. 4) **Support** - in place if necessary

The Channel Awareness Training can be accessed via the website below.

http://course.ncalt.com/Channel_General_Awareness