

## **PREVENT Policy and Risk Assessment**

<b>Policy Written/Reviewed by</b>	Fiona May/Katie Martin
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<b>Date of Next Review</b>	September 2026

## Aims and Principles

The main aims of this policy statement are to ensure that staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalisation; that they overcome professional disbelief that such issues will not happen here and ensure that we work alongside other professional bodies and agencies to ensure that our pupils are safe from harm. The principal objectives are that:

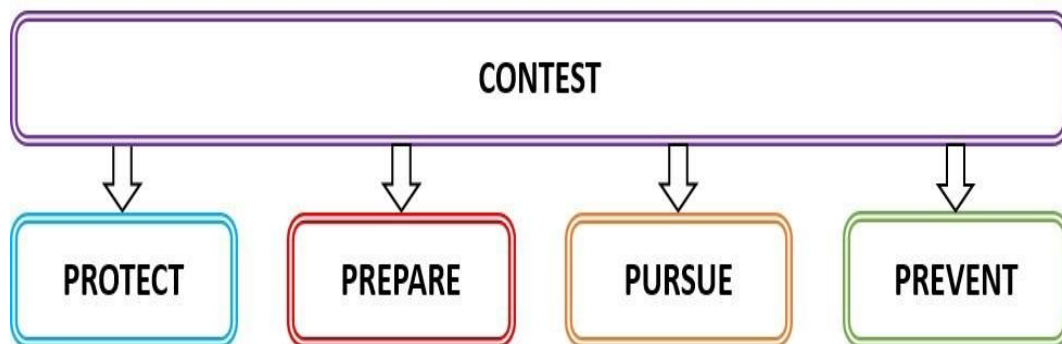
- All Staff and Trustees will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school. We have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.
- All Staff and Trustees will know what the school policy is on anti-radicalisation and extremism and will follow the policy when issues arise.
- All parents and pupils will know that the school has policies in place to keep pupils safe from harm and that the school regularly reviews its systems to ensure they are appropriate and effective.

## Context

Prevent is one strand of the Government's Counter Terrorist Strategy Contest which includes four strands:

- Protect – To strengthen protection against a terrorist attack
- Prepare – To mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack.
- Pursue – To stop terrorist attacks.
- Prevent – Prevent people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

As well as supporting the above strategy The Rowans also takes steps to ensure that all pupils and staff are aware of the dangers of extremism and are able to protect themselves or seek support to ensure they are safe.



Early intervention is at the heart of "Prevent" in diverting people away from being drawn into terrorist or extreme activity. "Prevent" happens before any criminal activity takes place. It is about recognising, supporting and protecting people who might be susceptible to extremist views and radicalisation.

The Prevent Strategy has three significant objectives:

- 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

**Channel** is a key element of the “Prevent” strategy and is a multi-agency approach to protect people at risk from extremism and radicalisation. **Channel** uses existing collaboration between local authorities, statutory partners (such as the education and health sectors, social services, pupils’ and youth services and offender management services), the police and the local community to:

- Identify individuals at risk of being drawn into extremism or terrorism.
- Assess the nature and extent of that risk.
- Develop the most appropriate support plan for the individuals concerned.

**Channel** is about safeguarding pupils and adults from being drawn into committing extremist or terrorist-related activity. It is about early intervention to protect and divert people away from the risk they face before illegality occurs. It is important to note that Prevent is about risks of extremism from all groups and sectors of society.

### **Definitions and Indicators**

Radicalisation is a personal and individual process, which will look different from person to person. When talking about the ‘risk of radicalisation’, it is therefore challenging to describe exactly what it looks like. Various signs or indicators may signal a person is at risk of being radicalised into terrorism. Staff should understand what radicalisation means and why people may be susceptible to extremist ideologies used to encourage children and young people into participating in or supporting terrorism. They should be aware of the terms ‘radicalisation’, ‘terrorism’ and ‘extremism’.

Radicalisation is the process through which a person comes to support or be involved in extremist ideologies. It is in itself a form of harm.

Terrorism is an action or threat designed to influence the government or intimidate the public. Its purpose is to advance a political, religious or ideological cause.

Extremism is defined as the support or promotion of an ideology based on violence, hatred or intolerance that aims to:

- deny or destroy the fundamental rights and freedoms of others
- undermine or overturn the UK’s system of democracy and democratic rights
- intentionally create an environment that permits or enables others to achieve either of the above.

### **Procedures for Referrals**

It is important for us to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues which affect the area and region in which we teach. Staff are reminded to have a culture of ‘it could happen here’ and to refer any concerns through the appropriate channels (currently via the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputy Designated Safeguarding leads / CPOMS).

We believe that it is possible to intervene to protect people who are susceptible. Early intervention is vital and staff must be aware of the established processes for front line professionals to refer concerns about individuals and/or groups. We must have the confidence to challenge, the confidence to intervene and ensure that we have strong safeguarding practices based on the most up-to-date guidance and best practice.

The safeguarding team will deal swiftly with any concerns reported by staff. A discussion about the most appropriate course of action on a case-by-case basis will decide when a referral to external agencies is needed.

### **How does radicalisation happen?**

The process of radicalisation may involve:

- being [groomed](#) online or in person
- exploitation, including [sexual exploitation](#)

- psychological manipulation
- exposure to violent material and other inappropriate information
- the risk of physical harm or death through extremist acts.

It happens gradually so children and young people who are affected may not realise what it is that they are being drawn into. Anyone can be radicalised but there are some factors which may make a young person more vulnerable. These include:

- being easily influenced or impressionable
- having low self-esteem or being isolated
- feeling that rejection, discrimination or injustice is taking place in society
- experiencing community tension amongst different groups
- being disrespectful or angry towards family and peers
- having a strong need for acceptance or belonging
- experiencing grief such as loss of a loved one.

### **Making a Referral to PREVENT**

From August 2024 there is a [new national referral form for Prevent \(PDF, 296.4 KB\)](#). Once this form is completed it is essential that it is submitted to the police directly, or to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) to do this on your behalf. In Medway all forms must be submitted to [preventreferrals@kent.police.uk](mailto:preventreferrals@kent.police.uk)

- Where possible you will receive a response on your referral, but this is not always possible due to data-protection considerations and other sensitivities.
- On page one of the referral form, it includes [advice for members of the public](#). The referral form is for 'specified authorities' only - i.e. people with Prevent responsibilities according to the CTSA, **although police are happy to accept referrals from the public on the form.**
- Members of the public can call the Act Early Support Line on 0800 011 3764 in confidence to share your concerns or call the anti-terrorism Hotline on 0800 789 321.
- If you are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech impairment, a police non-emergency number is available as a text phone service on 18001 101. Remember, in an emergency dial 999.
- [report online material promoting terrorism or extremism](#)
- [View guidance on reporting hate crime](#)

### **The Role of the Curriculum**

Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance, equality and diversity. We are committed to ensuring that our pupils are offered a broad and balanced curriculum that aims to prepare them for life in modern Britain. Pupils are encouraged to share their views and recognise that they are entitled to have their own different beliefs which should not be used to influence others. Our PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education), provision is embedded across the curriculum, and underpins the ethos of the school. Teaching the schools' core values alongside the fundamental British values supports quality teaching and learning, whilst making a positive contribution to the development of a fair, just and civil society. Pupils are regularly taught about how to stay safe when using the Internet and are encouraged to recognise that people are not always who they say they are online. They are taught to seek adult help if they are upset or concerned about anything they read or see on the Internet.

## **Role of Trustees**

The Trustees of the provision will undertake appropriate training to ensure that they are clear about their role and the parameters of their responsibilities as trustees, including their statutory safeguarding duties. The trustees will support the ethos and values of our school and will support the school in tackling extremism and radicalisation. In line with the provisions set out in the DfE guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024' the trustees will challenge the school's leadership team on the delivery of this policy and monitor its effectiveness.

## **Staff Training**

Through CPD opportunities in school, we will ensure that our staff are fully aware of the threats, risks and vulnerabilities that are linked to radicalisation; are aware of the process of radicalisation and how this might be identified early on.

## **The Rowans AP Academy has a Prevent Risk Assessment**

The prevent risk assessment has allowed us to consider how our pupils may be susceptible to radicalisation into terrorism. It has allowed us to consider risks and mitigations to effectively safeguard our pupils from being drawn into or supporting terrorism. We have proportionate and appropriate capabilities to manage this risk and have a clear approach to deal with radicalisation concerns.

Our risk assessment shows we have an awareness and understanding of the threat and risk in the Medway area. Obviously, this risk is changeable but we all fully understand that no provision or area is risk free.

At The Rowans AP Academy, our leaders and staff have an understanding of:

- of the national threat picture
- a general understanding of the risks affecting pupils, young people or adult learners
- a specific understanding of local risks and the potential impact on our pupils
- a proportionate response to the level of threat and risk, considering our setting

All staff are encouraged to:

- Be vigilant - radicalisation is usually a process, not an event, and factors or events may contribute towards the radicalisation for an individual.
- Familiarise themselves with the factors that contribute towards radicalisation and know how to make a Prevent referral.
- Be up to date with Prevent training and have a clear understanding of the Prevent Duty, how to make Prevent referrals as well as knowing who the Prevent champion is for our school - and check that they are receiving regular updates.
- Complete Prevent e-learning and contact the Kent and Medway Prevent Education Officers for support and guidance.

## **Prevent is a shared responsibility. Staff report any concerns immediately.**

We are committed to collaboration with local partners including the local authority, prevent leads, the police and community safety partnerships, and DfE regional Prevent coordinator. We work to build resilience to radicalisation including protecting our pupils online and raise awareness of online safety

### **Useful Websites**

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

<https://gb.safeguarding.network/content/safeguarding-resources/radicalisation/>

<https://educateagainsthate.com/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protecting-pupils-from-radicalisation-the-prevent-duty>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/channel-and-prevent-multi-agency-panel-pmap-guidance>

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL9TuOrxs7DdBrTx5NkghTauw1Cu-KsSwF>

<https://www.kelsi.org.uk/child-protection-and-safeguarding/prevent-within-schools>

## Appendix 1 - "Prevent" Risk Assessment and Action Plan

The Rowans AP Academy recognises that it has a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act, 2015, in the exercise of its functions, to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

Duty	What this means	Action	By whom
<b>Risk assessment</b>			
Assess the risk of pupils being drawn into terrorism	Staff can demonstrate a general understanding of the risks affecting pupils and young people	<p>All staff have read "Keeping Children Safe in Education", September 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) has informed staff of their duties as set out in "The Prevent Duty – Departmental advice for Schools and childcare providers" (DfE June 2015)</li> <li>● Be aware of 'Dawah' (invitation or preaching of Islam in order to convert, a terrorist group) which has caused issues nationally. This is not thought to be an issue in Medway yet but staff should be vigilant for the signs</li> <li>● Threats from DAESH – ISIS (Islamic State)</li> <li>● All staff to be aware of any local far right wing extremists. Right wing terrorism is the fastest growing threat.</li> </ul> <p>The key risks for the South East region are as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Right wing terrorism</li> <li>- Potential lone actors, ideological acts of violence</li> <li>- Al muhajiroun – Islamism group that uses extremist rhetoric and activism to advance</li> </ul>	All staff DSL

		<p>its objective of establishing an Islamic Caliphate in the UK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Extremism in the prison state</li> <li>- Hostile State Actors (HAS) – a foreign state or person deemed to be operating on behalf of a foreign government, seeking to undermine the UK's national security.</li> </ul>	
	Staff can identify individual pupils who may be at risk of radicalisation and how to support them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The DSL has informed staff about signs and indicators of radicalisation including those from extreme right-wing organisations. Local risks are known.</li> <li>• The DSL regularly briefs staff on topical 'issues' or 'areas' locally to be aware of in pupil's discussions</li> <li>• All staff are aware of the reporting process for any concerns.</li> </ul>	All staff
	There is a clear procedure in place for protecting pupils at risk of radicalisation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All staff understand how to record and report concerns regarding risk of radicalisation.</li> <li>• Prevent training takes place on joining the school and annually thereafter.</li> </ul>	All staff
	The school has identified a DSL, who takes overall responsibility for Prevent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All staff know who the DSL is and that this person acts as a source of advice and support.</li> </ul>	All staff
	All staff are vigilant with parents, carers and members of the community and pass information on appropriately	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff share concerns to the appropriate body either in or outside of working hours</li> <li>• Pupil's safeguarding out of hours service shared with all staff and clearly visible in school and on school website</li> </ul>	All staff

Prohibit extremist speakers and events in the school	The school exercises “due diligence” in relation to requests from external speakers and organisations using school premises.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All visiting speakers to have a nominated point of contact at the school</li> <li>• Conducting research on the person/organisation to establish whether they have demonstrated extreme views/actions.</li> <li>• Refusal to allow people/organisations to use school premises if they have links to extreme groups or movements.</li> <li>• Visitors to provide ID upon arrival at school and read and adhere to the school’s safeguarding procedures.</li> <li>• Ensuring visiting speakers are accompanied and are not left unsupervised with pupils if there could be a risk</li> </ul>	DSL
<b>Working in Partnership</b>			
The school is using existing local partnership arrangements in exercising its Prevent duty.	Staff record and report concerns in line with existing policies and procedures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All staff record and report concerns on ‘CPOMs’</li> <li>• DSLs are aware of the work of the Kent and Medway Prevent Team</li> <li>• The Headteacher/DSL is aware of local issues specific to the school and disseminates information accordingly.</li> </ul>	All staff
	The DSL will make appropriate referrals to other agencies including the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and Channel Panel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Records of referrals to be kept on ‘CPOMs’</li> <li>• Referrals are followed up appropriately.</li> <li>• Links with the local police and Medway VRU Team are set up to ensure school is kept up to date with any local trends</li> </ul>	All staff

Staff Training			
Equip staff to identify pupils at risk of being drawn into terrorism and to challenge extremist ideas.	Assess the training needs of staff in the light of the school's assessment of the risk to pupils at the school of being drawn into terrorism.	<p>The school should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure all staff have undertaken Prevent Awareness Training as part of their Safeguarding Training.</li> <li>• The DSL ensures that all staff are aware of the Prevent Duty and provides further information and resources.</li> <li>• All staff have access to the government online Prevent awareness training and the Designated Safeguarding Lead is able to provide advice and support to other members of staff on protecting pupils from the risk of radicalisation.</li> <li>• Key members of staff have also completed the 'Prevent and radicalisation workshop'</li> </ul>	DSL
IT Policies			
Endeavour to ensure that pupils are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in schools	The school has policies in place which support the "Prevent" duty.	<p>Safeguarding Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Behaviour Policy</li> <li>• Policy on Pupils' Use of ICT, Mobile Phones and other Electronic Devices</li> </ul>	DSL
	Pupils are taught about on-line safety with age appropriate reference to the risk of radicalisation.	The curriculum reflects this duty.	ICT teacher and all staff
	Measures are taken to minimise the risk of pupils accessing extremist material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The school uses MGFL for our filtering system</li> <li>• We filter and blocks known harmful categories, including social media, within the school environment</li> </ul>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We log all browsing activity The web filtering has an “extremism” category. It blocks extremist sites for all pupils and keeps a log of all searches for up to one year.</li> <li>• The Headteacher is alerted by email of any suspicious web browsing or key strokes on the network.</li> </ul>	
<b>Building pupils resilience to radicalisation</b>			
Ensure that pupils have a safe environment in which to discuss controversial issues.	Pupils develop the knowledge, skills and understanding to prepare them to play a full and active part in society.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through PSHE and other curriculum activities, pupils are able to explore political, religious and social issues.</li> <li>• Pupils are taught about the diverse national, regional and ethnic identities in the UK and the need for mutual respect.</li> <li>• Staff are aware of the importance of promoting fundamental British values. Local issues specific to rural Dorset are discussed during PSHE and humanity based subjects.</li> </ul>	