

# Ysgol Caergeiliog Foundation School



## THE PREVENT DUTY

### School Advice for all Employees, Staff, Parents, Carers, Visitors and Governors

#### INTRODUCTION

From the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015 all schools, registered early years childcare providers and registered later years childcare providers (referred to in this advice as 'childcare providers') are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, in the exercise of their functions, to have “**due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism**”.

This duty is known as the **Prevent Duty**. It applies to a wide range of public-facing bodies. Bodies to which the duty applies must have regard to the statutory guidance.

**NOTE: This guidance compliments the statutory guidance**

Procedures for implementing PREVENT:

Caergeiliog Foundation School has clear procedures in place for protecting children at risk of radicalisation. These procedures are set out in existing Safeguarding Policies. It is not necessary to have distinct policies on implementing the Prevent Duty. General safeguarding principles apply to keeping children safe from the risk of radicalisation as set out in the relevant statutory guidance.

The Prevent Duty: What It Means.

1. In order to fulfil the Prevent Duty, it is essential that staff are able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation and know what to do when they are identified.
2. Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation, should be seen as part of the School's wider safeguarding duties, and is similar in nature to protecting children from other harms (e.g. drugs, gangs, neglect, sexual exploitation), whether these come from within their family or are the product of outside influence.
3. The School can also build pupils' resilience to radicalisation by promoting fundamental British values and enabling them to challenge extremist views.
4. It is important to emphasise that the Prevent Duty is not intended to stop pupils debating controversial issues. On the contrary, the School will provide a safe space in which pupils and staff can understand the risks associated with terrorism and develop the knowledge and skills to be able to challenge extremist arguments.
5. For Early Years, the statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage sets standards for learning, development and care for children from 0-5, thereby assisting their personal, social and emotional development and understanding of the world.

**NOTE: The Prevent Duty is entirely consistent with the School's existing responsibilities and should not be burdensome.**

## **Risk Assessment**

The School carries out Risk Assessments to assess the risk of pupils being drawn into terrorism, including support for extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology. This means being able to demonstrate both a general understanding of the risks affecting pupils and how to identify individual pupils who may be at risk of radicalisation and what to do to support them.

The general risks affecting pupils may vary from area to area, and according to their age. Therefore, the School recognises it is in an important position to identify risks within its local context.

It is important that staff understand the risk so that they can respond in an appropriate and proportionate way.

At the same time staff should be aware of the increased risk of online radicalisation, as terrorist organisations such as ISIL seek to radicalise young people through the use of social media and the internet. The School will work with the local authority and local police to gather contextual information regarding risks in the area.

### **Identifying who is likely to be susceptible to a terrorist ideology:**

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.
- Staff must use their professional judgement in identifying pupils who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately.
- Even very young children may be vulnerable to radicalisation by others, whether in the family or outside, and display concerning behaviour.
- The Prevent Duty does not require teachers to carry out unnecessary intrusion into family life but as with any other safeguarding risk, they must take action when they observe behaviour of concern.

## **Staff Training**

The school acknowledges the importance of Prevent awareness training to equip staff to identify children at risk of being drawn into terrorism and to challenge extremist ideas. Therefore:

- All employees and Governors are required to be trained in the School Safeguarding Procedures and PREVENT DUTY.
- Information relating to the School's Safeguarding Procedures and PREVENT DUTY will also be given to parents, carers and visitors.
- The School identifies its training needs in the light of its assessment of the risk. As a minimum, however, the School will ensure that the Designated Safeguarding Lead undertakes Prevent awareness training and is able to provide advice and support to other members of the staff on protecting children from the risk of radicalisation.

## **I.T. Policies**

The School will ensure that the pupils are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet. The School ensures that suitable filtering is in place.

Moreover, the School recognises that it has an important role to play in equipping the pupils with the necessary skills to stay safe online, both in School and outside. Internet safety is integral to the School's ICT curriculum and is embedded in the PSHE and SRE.

As with other online risks of harm, all staff need to be aware of the risks posed by the online activity of extremist and terrorist groups.

**The Aim: Building children's resilience to radicalisation:**

As explained above, the School aims to build pupils' resilience to radicalisation by:

- Providing a safe environment for debating controversial issues
- Helping them to understand how they can influence and participate in decision making.
- Promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils and, within this, fundamental British values.

The School recognises that personal, social and health education (PSHE) can be an effective way of providing pupils with time to explore sensitive or controversial issues and equipping them with the knowledge and skills to understand and manage difficult situations. This subject should be used to teach pupils to:

- Recognise and manage risk
- Make safer choices and recognise when pressure from others threatens their personal safety and wellbeing.

They can also develop effective ways of:

- Resisting pressures, including knowing when, where and how to get help.

The School will also encourage pupils to develop positive character traits through PSHE, such as:

- Resilience
- Determination
- Self esteem

And

- Confidence

Citizenship in the School curriculum should help to provide pupils with the :

- Knowledge
- Skills

And

- Understanding to prepare them to play a full and active part in society.

It should equip pupils to:

- Explore political and social issues critically
- Weigh evidence, to debate

And

- To make reasoned arguments

In Citizenship, pupils learn about democracy, government and how laws are made and upheld. Pupils are also taught about the diverse national, regional, religious and ethnic identities in the United Kingdom and the need for mutual respect and understanding.

**What to do if you have a concern:**

If an employee, Governor, parent, carer or visitor has a concern about a particular pupil they should follow the School's normal Safeguarding Procedures, including:

- Discussing with the School's designated safeguarding lead

And

- Where deemed necessary with children social care services.

In prevent priority areas, the local authority will have a Prevent lead who can also provide support.

You can also contact your local police force or dial 101 (the non-emergency number). They can talk to you in confidence about your concerns and help you gain access to support and advice

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