

Prevent Duty Policy

1. Policy Statement: Starting from July 1, 2015, all educational institutions, early years childcare providers, and later years childcare providers (referred to as 'childcare providers' in this policy) are mandated, under Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism" when exercising their functions. This duty is known as the Prevent Duty and applies to a broad spectrum of public-facing organisations.

What is Radicalism? Radicalism refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism. Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is seen as part of this childcare provision's broader safeguarding duties and is akin to safeguarding children from other forms of harm and abuse. During the process of radicalisation, it is possible to intervene to protect vulnerable individuals. Identifying susceptibility to extremist ideologies is not a singular path and can manifest in various ways and settings. Certain background factors may contribute to vulnerability, often in combination with specific influences from sources such as family, friends, or online, coupled with specific needs for which an extremist or terrorist group may seem to offer a solution. The internet and the use of social media play a significant role in the radicalisation of young people.

4. Practice and Procedure: At our childcare provision, it is imperative that all members can identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation and know the appropriate steps to take when such individuals are identified. Safeguarding children from the risk of radicalisation is a crucial part of childcare providers' broader safeguarding responsibilities, similar to safeguarding against other forms of abuse. All members are instructed to challenge extremist and radical views, and they can promote this in their daily work, such as assisting in children's personal, social, and emotional development and their understanding of the world.

5. Risk Assessment: All members working directly with children are expected to assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorism, including support for extremist ideas within terrorist ideology. This includes having a general understanding of the risks affecting children and a specific understanding of how to identify individual children who may be at risk of radicalisation and what actions to take to support them. All members should be alert to changes in children's behavior that might indicate a need for help or protection. Professional judgment should be used to identify children at risk of radicalisation and take appropriate action, which may include making referrals.

6. Procedure for Reporting Concerns: If any member has concerns about a child, they will follow our childcare provision's safeguarding procedures, including discussing any concerns with the designated safeguarding lead. Referrals should be made to both CTU_GATEWAY@westmidlands.pnn.police.uk and mash@coventry.gov.uk or contact West Midlands Police Constabulary at 101. In emergencies, always call 999.

Signed:

Date:

The Date for Review: