

1.5 Prevent duty

Policy

Safeguarding children from all risks of harm is paramount and as part of that responsibility to safeguard the welfare of children and families attending the setting, we have a duty under Section 26 of the Counterterrorism and Security Act 2015 to prevent them from being drawn into terrorism.

The risk of extremism and radicalisation on a child, child's family or individual members of the family, can impact on the safety of the child and we have a duty to refer any concerns of extremism to the police. This policy should be read in conjunction with our Safeguarding Children Policy and our British Values Policy.

Procedures

- We will ensure staff understand the issues of radicalisation and are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know what to do when they are identified.
- All staff are registered to [Flick our training platform](#).
- All staff will undertake and complete: Basic Safeguarding Training.
- All staff will undertake and complete: Prevent Duty Awareness Training.
- Where applicable, we have relevant risk assessments relating to safeguarding children.
- We will record and keep up-to-date relevant contact details relating to prevent.
- We will actively promote the fundamental British Values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance as these values assist the individual child in their personal, social and emotional development and understanding of the world.
- We will act when we observe behaviour of concern.
- Staff will refer all concerns about children to the Designated Safeguarding Person, or in their absence the Designated Safeguarding Officer, using the usual methods for reporting other safeguarding concerns as detailed in the Safeguarding Policy.
- When there are significant concerns, then the Designated Safeguarding Person will contact Children Social Care. If there are concerns that an individual may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism or extremism, we will make referrals to the Local Police Prevent Co-ordinator.
- We will work in partnership with the local authority, the local safeguarding boards and the police and be guided by their advice in relation to local safeguarding issues.

Channel

This is a programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. Channel has been operating since 2014 and covers all forms of extremism. The support that is offered is tailored to the particular individual. People who are referred to Channel are not criminals but may be at risk of committing an offence if not supported.

Signs of Vulnerability to radicalisation and extremist ideologies

There are no known definitive indicators that a person is vulnerable to radicalisation, but there are a number of signs that together increase the risk. All staff and volunteers will be alert to the following (this is not an exhaustive list):

- Changes in family behaviour
- Changes in children's behaviour, e.g. aggression towards others
- Comments made by a child which may cause concern, e.g. commenting on what their parent has said about fighting for the cause etc.
- Intolerance of difference, including faith, culture, gender, race or sexuality
- Showing sympathy for extremist causes

Internet Safety

The internet provides children and young people with access to a wide range of content, some of which is harmful. Extremists use the internet, including social media, to share their messages. Staff are aware of the need to keep children safe from any risks posed by terrorist exploitation of social media and will be dealt with in the same way as safeguarding children from any other online abuse. We have a policy for the use of computers and electronic communication devices which all staff and volunteers must adhere to at all times.

Home Learning Support

We offer our own safe 'Home Learning' page on our website with E-Safety guidance:

Link: <https://www.earlylearnersnurseries.co.uk/homelearning>

Lockdown Procedure

If an emergency happens, the setting manager must act quickly to assess the likelihood of immediate danger. Call 999 if there is a concern for safety of people, staff, children or the safety of others, or you feel you have critical information. In most cases the assumption should be that it is safer to stay put and place the setting into 'lockdown' until the emergency services arrive. When possible, notify your Area Manager. It is essential staff comply with instructions at all times.

- Upon alert to lockdown, stay calm and act.
- Ensure staff and children stay in their designated areas.
- Stay in the classroom, secure all doors and windows and await further instructions.
- Close windows and blinds where possible.
- Stay away from windows and doors.
- Position children into the centre of the classroom(s)/ area(s).
- Stay low and keep calm,

It might be an idea to rehearse this with children in an age-appropriate way, in the same way that you would rehearse fire evacuation. Lockdown must be rehearsed termly.

Further actions to consider:

- Tuning into a local TV or radio station for more information.
- Do NOT make non-essential calls on mobile phones or landlines.
- Do not leave classrooms for non-essential tasks.
- Be alert: Do NOT open the door once it has been secured until you are officially advised 'all clear' or are certain it is emergency services at the door. This is another element of the settings 'lockdown' procedure that can be practised in an age-appropriate way with the children to avoid them becoming anxious when staff do not respond to the doorbell in the usual way.
- Do NOT travel down corridors.
- Do NOT assemble in large open areas.
- Avoid being on your own.
- Do NOT call 999 again unless you have immediate concern for your safety, the safety of others, or feel you have critical information.

Following the lockdown

- Co-operate with the emergency services to help in an orderly evacuation.
- Ensure you have the Register and children's details with you.
- Any staff or children who have witnessed an attack or incident will need to tell the police what they saw and record a statement in writing.
- The police may require other individuals to remain available for questioning.
- Keep information private and confidential

Managing parents

- In the event of an incident it is inevitable parents will want to come to the setting and collect their children immediately.
- Parents must be discouraged from doing so, until the emergency services give the all clear. Even then, depending on the severity and type of incident, children may need to be checked by medical teams or questioned by the police.
- It must be made absolutely clear to parents that you will be acting on the advice of the emergency services at all times.
- With regard to getting information to parents during 'lockdown', you should use the existing systems and send notifications / group messages, updates via social media, or emails.
- We discourage parents from ringing the setting directly for further updates during 'lockdown'; it will be vital the phone lines remain clear.

Threat levels

Threat levels are designed to give a broad indication of the likelihood of a terrorist attack.

- LOW means an attack is unlikely.
- MODERATE means an attack is possible but not likely.
- SUBSTANTIAL means an attack is a strong possibility.
- SEVERE means an attack is highly likely.
- CRITICAL means an attack is expected imminently.

Members of the public should always remain alert to the danger of terrorism and report any suspicious activity to the police on 999.

Suggested wording for message/ notification to parents

REF: Lockdown

Dear Parent/ carer,

Due to an incident, we have been advised by the emergency services to take the precautionary measures to secure and lockdown the premises until we are given the 'all clear' and the potential threat is under control. The police are supporting us step by step and its important we comply with their instructions.

We kindly ask that you do not attempt to collect your child or visit the premises until we have communicated with you. The safety and security of everyone within our setting is paramount. We will let you know as soon as possible when you are able to collect.

In the meantime, it is important that we keep our telephone lines clear and would appreciate your cooperation in not calling unless it is absolutely vital that you need to speak to us.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Kind regards

Early Learners Team

Useful Contact Numbers

Police: (Emergency)	999
Police (Non-emergency / Reporting)	101
Children Social Care	
Local Police Prevent Co-ordinator:	
Anti-Terrorist Hotline - <i>Report an immediate threat to life or property.</i>	0800 789 321
DfE Counter Extremism Helpline - <i>Preventing extremism in education settings</i>	020 7340 7264 Opening times: Monday to Friday from 11am to 3pm

Legal framework and guidance

The duty to prevent children and young people being radicalised is set out in the following documents:

- Counterterrorism & Security Act 2015
- DfE Prevent Duty Guidance 2015
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015
- Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage
- The Prevent Duty
- Online safety tips for parents of pre-school children 0–5-Year-Olds
- Internet Matters