



PARTNER OF THE EVERYONE MATTERS SCHOOLS TRUST

Prevent Policy – Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation

Everyone Matters

We expect our community to be kind, polite and respectful

Everyone Helps

We expect our community to make sensible choices

Everyone Succeeds

We expect our community to work hard

Guidance Owner	Principal
Scope of the Policy	Everyone Matters Schools Trust
Written/last reviewed	September 2026
Next review due	September 2027
Summary of key changes	None





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1. Introduction

Rainford High School is fully committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all students, staff, and stakeholders. We recognise that there is no place for extremist views of any kind within our school community. The Prevent duty, part of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 and updated in December 2023, requires schools to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

2. Purpose

Prevent is a safeguarding duty aimed at:

- Responding to the ideological challenge from terrorism and extremism of all kinds, including far-right terrorism.
- Preventing individuals from being drawn into terrorism through early identification and support.
- Working collaboratively with local partners to provide advice and support to those susceptible to radicalisation.

3. Scope

This policy applies to all staff, governors, volunteers, students, parents, and visitors. It complements other safeguarding policies and procedures in the school.

4. Key Definitions

- **Radicalisation:** The process by which an individual comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies leading to terrorism.
- **Extremism:** Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values such as democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

5.1 Governing Body

- Ensure the school meets its Prevent duty.
- Oversee the development, implementation, and monitoring of this policy.

5.2 Principal and Senior Leadership Team

- Ensure all staff understand and fulfil their Prevent responsibilities.
- Maintain effective training and awareness programmes.



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5.3 Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) / Single Point of Contact (SPOC)

- Lead on Prevent referrals and concerns.
- Act as the liaison with local Prevent partners, including the police and Channel panel.
- Maintain knowledge of local risk factors and referral pathways.

5.4 All Staff

- Complete mandatory Prevent awareness training.
- Remain vigilant to signs of radicalisation and report concerns promptly to the DSL.

6. Risk Assessment

The school undertakes a **local-risk-informed** Prevent approach to identify and respond to the risks of students being drawn into terrorism or extremism. This includes:

- Assessing local, regional, and national threats.
- Reviewing school context including student demographics, curriculum, and local community factors.
- Considering online risks and guest speakers.

7. Staff Training

- All staff complete Prevent awareness training, refreshed regularly.
- The safeguarding team undertake enhanced training and ensure the Prevent duty is embedded in safeguarding.

8. Curriculum and Environment

- Promote fundamental British values across the curriculum, including citizenship and RSHE.
- Encourage critical thinking and resilience to extremist ideologies.
- Vet all external speakers and visitors rigorously to prevent extremist influence.
- Ensure effective IT filtering and monitoring to block extremist content online.

9. Identifying and Responding to Risks

9.1 Indicators of Susceptibility to Radicalisation

Staff should be alert to factors including but not limited to:

- Identity or personal crises causing isolation or confusion.
- Exposure to extremist ideology or recruiters.
- Significant changes in behaviour or appearance.
- Use of extremist language or justification of violence.



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9.2 Referral Process

- Any Prevent concerns should be treated as safeguarding concerns and reported to the DSL without delay.
- The DSL will use the **national Prevent referral form** (available from gov.uk) and work with local Prevent partners and the Channel panel where necessary.
- Referral and information sharing will comply with GDPR and safeguarding protocols.

10. Supporting Pupils

- The school works with external agencies to support pupils susceptible to radicalisation, ensuring interventions are proportionate, timely, and protective.
- Parents and carers will be engaged as appropriate to support the pupil's welfare.

11. Governance and Review

- The Governing Body will review this policy annually.
- The DSL will report on Prevent activity, training, and risk assessments regularly.

12. Related Policies

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Online Safety Policy
- Equality and Diversity Policy
- Behaviour Policy

Appendix 1 – Indicators of Susceptibility to Radicalisation

Radicalisation is the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies. It's important to remember that no single factor indicates radicalisation, but a combination of the following signs might suggest someone is susceptible:

- **Identity Crisis:** The student feels disconnected from their cultural, religious, or national identity, and struggles with their place in society.
- **Personal Crisis:** The student experiences family tensions, social isolation, or low self-esteem; may withdraw from old friendships and seek new groups.
- **Personal Circumstances:** Experiences such as migration, community tensions, discrimination, or feelings of grievance related to government policies.
- **Unmet Aspirations:** Feelings of injustice, failure, or rejection of civic life.
- **Exposure to Extremist Influences:** Contact with extremist recruiters, accessing extremist online content, or possession of extremist literature.
- **Use of Extremist Narratives:** Justifying violence as a solution to societal problems or expressing support for extremist groups.
- **Significant Behavioural Changes:** Sudden changes in appearance, language, or behaviour.



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- **Social Isolation:** Experiencing extreme loneliness or withdrawal, leading to increased vulnerability.

Note: These indicators do not confirm radicalisation but should prompt careful consideration and, if needed, a safeguarding referral.

