

**Smallville Nursery
Prevent Duty
Policy 2022**

Revised March 2023

Smallville Nursery Prevent Duty Policy 2022

“The Prevent duty became law back in 2015. This is a duty on all schools and registered early years providers to have due regard to preventing people being drawn into terrorism. To protect children in your care, you must be alert to any reason for concern in the child’s life at home or elsewhere.”

Smallville Nursery is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for children, staff, parents, carers and others associated with us. We recognise that safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility irrespective of the role they undertake or whether their role has direct contact or responsibility for children. For the purposes of this policy, we acknowledge the UK Government’s definition of extremism which is:

‘Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British Values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs; and/or calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas’.

Smallville Nursery understand and comply with the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015, to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”.

Definitions

There is a clear approach to implementing the Prevent duty and keeping children safe from the dangers of radicalisation and extremism.

- Extremism
- Vocal or active opposition to Fundamental British Values
- Radicalisation
- The process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.
- Terrorism
- An action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people; causes serious damage to property; or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system.

Prevent Duty Policy

This policy is based on the Prevent strategy produced by the Government in 2011, is part of an overall counter- terrorism strategy. The aim of the strategy is to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

There is no place for extremist views of any kind in our nursery from whatever source. We recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes for children and so should be addressed as a safeguarding concern as set out in this policy. We also recognise that if we fail to challenge extremist views, we are failing in our duty of care to everyone here at the nursery.

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Smallville Nursery understand it is our duty to keep children safe and promote their welfare. Therefore, we will not accept

- Intolerance of other faiths, cultures and races.
- failure to challenge gender stereotypes and routinely segregate boys and girls.
- isolation of children from the wider community.
- failure to challenge behaviours (whether this is staff, children or parents) that are not in line with the fundamental British values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs.

Legislation

In tackling extremism and radicalisation, we will take account of the following national guidelines and legislation:

- CONTEST (Counter Terrorist Strategy) 2011
- Prevent Duty Guidance for specified local authorities HMI June 2015
- Channel Duty Guidance 2015
- Counter Terrorism & Security Act 2015
- The Prevent Duty, Dfe Departmental advice for schools and child care providers 2015
- Section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty upon Local Authorities and all specified settings including nurseries in the exercise of their functions to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from been drawn into terrorism”.

We are required under section 26 to:

- Know about and Identify early indicators in children, staff and others associated with the nursery.
- Develop the confidence to challenge and intervene.
- Assess the risk of our children being drawn into terrorism and terrorist ideology.
- Have clear protocols & keep records.
- Be monitored by Ofsted in how we exercise these duties.
- We will work with the Local Authority (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub - MASH) and with other agencies in making sure we undertake our duties under Prevent. Clearly very young children are extremely susceptible to suggestion from
- adults and other sources and we need to recognise and assess the context of what appears to be extremist behaviour. Staff will always seek guidance from the DSL who in turn will be advised by the Local Authority experts where behaviour is deemed to be of a reportable or uncertain nature.

All Staff at Smallville Nursery have also undertaken an online Prevent course and keep informed of up-to-date practices.

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All members of staff have a legal “due regard” for preventing children from being drawn into terrorism and extremism.

- **Radicalisation:** this is the process by which someone comes to support terrorism
- **Extremism:** is the vocal or active opposition to the fundamental British Values.

Settings also have a duty to promote the welfare of each child, as required by law to “have a regard to preventing people being drawn into terrorism”

Channel is a key element of the Prevent Strategy and Local Authority Channel Panels

Dovetail has been in place in Kent since 2016 and Medway since late 2020 and continues to be the process by which Channel is managed.

How do I report concerns?

If you have an immediate concerns about the welfare of any persons, then contact the Police by calling 999.

make a referral prevent@kent.gov.uk

contact the police on 101 or 0800 789 321

Email nick.wilkinson@kent.gov.uk

Email: dovetail@kent.gov.uk

For regular updates follow us on Facebook - Kent County Council and Medway Prevent.

Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub

<https://www.kscmp.org.uk/procedures/prevent>

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Appendix – from Kent Safeguarding children

Prevent is part of CONTEST, one of the four elements of the Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy. The aim of the Prevent Strategy is to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. Prevent tackles all forms of extremism - including both Islamist extremism and far rights threats. This is achieved by challenging terrorist ideology; supporting vulnerable people and supporting sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation.

Prevent

Kent County Council and Medway Unitary Authority have the lead role in delivering the Prevent Strategy in Kent and Medway in accordance with the Prevent Duty Guidance and work with partners such as the Police and Health.

Prevent has three key objectives:

- respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism

- support vulnerable people and prevent people from being drawn into terrorism

- work with key sectors and institutions to address the risks

Prevent is a formal duty for Kent County Council and Medway Unitary Authority under the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015. We all have a role in protecting vulnerable children, young people and adults from being drawn into terrorism, keeping Kent and Medway safe. Extremism and radicalisation in our community are very real and being aware is the first step. You can help reduce the threat from terrorism, radicalisation, and extremism by being vigilant, knowing what to report and reporting it.

Prevent works with individuals and communities by using voluntary early intervention to encourage them to challenge extremist and terrorist ideology and behaviour. This can involve:

- support in schools, youth clubs, and community groups

- promoting positive values and community cohesion

- protection from extremist dialogues

- encourage safe and open debate and critical thinking

- encouraging reporting of concerns

- engage in positive activities

- engaging in open and honest dialogue around prevent

What is Channel?

Channel is a key element of the Prevent Strategy and Local Authority Channel Panels are a statutory requirement under the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015. Channel Panel is

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a multi-agency approach to identify and provide support to individuals who are at risk of being drawn into terrorism, including people holding and expressing violent extremist views. The overall aim of the programme is early intervention and diverting people away from potential risk. Channel involves agencies working together to give individuals access to services such as health and education, specialist mentoring and diversionary activities - Channel can (uniquely) provide theological or ideological mentoring. For those requiring support an appropriate package is offered based on an assessment of their vulnerability.

Unlike mainstream safeguarding for adults and children, there is no threshold to make a Prevent referral for an individual to access assessment and specialist support. There may be cases that require a safeguarding response in conjunction with Prevent. Channel provides early support for anyone who is vulnerable to being drawn into any form of terrorism or supporting terrorist organisations, regardless of age, faith, ethnicity, or background. Individuals can receive support before their vulnerabilities are exploited by those who want them to embrace terrorism, and before they become involved in terrorist -related activity. While it remains rare for children and young people to become involved in terrorist activity, young people from an early age can be exposed to terrorist and extremist influences or prejudiced views. As with other forms of safeguarding strategies, early intervention is always preferable.

What is Dovetail?

Dovetail was introduced as a pilot programme in several areas across the country, including Kent. The pilot assessed the feasibility of transferring the resources and responsibility for administering the programme and case management aspects of Channel from the Police to local authorities. Dovetail has been in place in Kent since 2016 and Medway since late 2020 and continues to be the process by which Channel is managed.