



Prevent Duty Policy

Our commitment to meeting the Prevent Duty can be summarised as follows:

P – Promotion of Equality and Diversity and positive relationships between staff and students

R – Referral of any concerns via Safeguarding staff to relevant authorities


E – Embedding British Values and education for students on all courses

V – Vetting teaching staff and guest speakers and removal of any posters or other materials of an extremist nature

E – Environment – a safe and secure learning environment

N – News monitoring for any concerns in the locality

T – Training of staff to raise awareness of the signs and risks

Prevent Policy	
Version No	4
Operational from	1 September 2023 (updated 27/01/2023 – Martyn’s Law)
Policy prepared by	Mekila Kelly
Policy Approved by	Gavin Deane – CEO - 
Prevent Lead	Mekila Kelly – mekila@education-wise.org – 0117 379 0450
Prevent Deputy	Gavin Deane – gdeane@education-wise.org - 0117 379 0450
Prevent Deputy	Nick Preston – npreston@education-wise.org - 0117 379 0450
Prevent Deputy	Charlie Walshe – cwalshe@education-wise.org - 0117 379 0450
Review date	September 2024

POLICY REVIEW

We will always make any changes immediately to our procedures in line with Government Guidance

Introduction

The Prevent Policy for The Educationwise reflects the importance of our responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all our apprentices, learners and staff by protecting them. We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all so that they can learn and work in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We believe everyone should be able to participate in all learning, working and social activities in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from harm.

Educationwise also complies with the statutory guidance on children who run away or go missing from home or care (January 2014) and The Prevent Duty (The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act June 2015) and Social Media for Online Radicalisation (July 2015) and this Policy should be read in conjunction with these procedures and guidance.

The main aims of this policy are to ensure that staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about raising awareness; that they overcome professional disbelief that such issues will not happen at Educationwise and ensure that we work alongside other professional bodies and agencies to ensure that our apprentices, learners and staff are safe from harm.

Radicalisation is defined as the act or process of making a person more radical or favouring of extreme or fundamental changes in political, economic or social conditions, institutions or habits of the mind. Extremism is defined as the holding of extreme political or religious views. At Educationwise, we are fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all learners and staff. We recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation is no different from safeguarding against any other vulnerability.

At Educationwise, all employees are expected to uphold and promote the fundamental principles of British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

The principle objectives of this policy are that:

- All staff will understand what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant.
- All apprentices and staff will know that Educationwise has policies in place to keep them safe from harm and that Educationwise regularly reviews its systems to ensure they are appropriate and effective.
- That we will promote this policy via our website, Onefile during inductions and training with both staff and learners to ensure that they understand and are committed to the policy and what their responsibilities and that as Educationwise we have a legal responsibility to fulfil the Prevent Duty Statement and to protect them from radicalising influences and ensure they are resilient to extreme narratives and identify changes in behaviour of apprentices that could be of concern.

Educationwise's curriculum promotes respect, tolerance, and diversity. Apprentices and staff are encouraged to share their views and recognise that they are entitled to have their own different beliefs which should not be used to influence others.

It is recognised that apprentices or staff with low aspirations are more vulnerable to radicalisation and, therefore, we strive to equip our apprentices and staff with confidence, self-belief, respect and tolerance as well as setting high standards and expectations for themselves.

Apprentices and staff are briefed during induction about how to stay safe when using the Internet and are encouraged to recognise that people are not always who they say they are online. They are taught to seek help if they are upset or concerned about anything they read or see on the Internet.

Educationwise staff, contractors, associates and volunteers will undertake appropriate training to ensure that they are clear about their role and the parameters of their responsibilities.

Through various training opportunities within Educationwise, we will ensure that our staff are fully aware of the threats, risks and vulnerabilities that are linked to radicalisation; are aware of the process of radicalisation and how this might be identified early on.

A risk-based approach to the Prevent duty

In complying with the duty Educationwise will demonstrate an awareness and understanding of the risk of radicalisation in the areas we work nationally and as an educational institution.

Leadership

Educationwise leaders will:

- establish or use existing mechanisms for understanding the risk of radicalisation
- ensure staff understand the risk and build the capabilities to deal with it
- communicate and promote the importance of the duty; and
- ensure staff implement the duty effectively.

Working in partnership

Educationwise will have an effective partnership with local Prevent co-ordinators, the police and local authorities, and co-ordination through existing multi-agency forums.

Capabilities

Our Frontline staff who engage with learners will understand what radicalisation means and why people may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism as a consequence of it. They will be aware of what is meant by the term “extremism” and the relationship between extremism and terrorism.

Staff will know what measures are available to prevent people from becoming drawn into terrorism and how to challenge the extremist ideology that can be associated with it and how to obtain support for people who may be being exploited by radicalising influences.

All staff will receive appropriate training for the implementation of this duty and the Designated leads are:

Designated Prevent Lead – Mekila Kelly

email: mkelly@education-wise.org telephone: 01173 790450

Deputy Designated Prevent Leads – Gavin Deane, Nick Preston & Charlie Walshe

email: gdeane@education-wise.org, nick@education-wise.org or cwalshe@education-wise.org
telephone: 01173 790450

Prevent

Another aspect of safeguarding is the PREVENT duty, which requires the Education sector to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism", supporting terrorism or being drawn into non-violent extremism.

Counter-Terrorism and Security Act

Sect 26 CTS Act places a duty on certain bodies (specified authorities – listed in Schedule 6) to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism".

Guidance is issued under Section 29 of the Act:

- Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it
- Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support
- Work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation that we need to address

Purpose of Prevent

- Prevent aims to safeguard vulnerable individuals (both adults and children) who may be at risk of potentially becoming involved in terrorist activities.
- It also aims to support institutions, such as schools, colleges and universities where this may happen.
- All frontline staff have a responsibility to report any instances where they think they have identified a Safeguarding issue to their Safeguarding Officer

Responsibilities

All provider staff have a legal responsibility under the Prevent Duty to make sure that:

- They have undertaken training in the Prevent Duty as identified by their management
- They are aware of when it is appropriate to refer concerns about learners to the Prevent officer, usually the provider's Safeguarding officer
- They exemplify **British values** of "democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs" into their practice

The Prevent Strategy will Specifically

- Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it
- Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support and work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation which we need to address

What is CONTEST?

CONTEST is the Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy, published in July 2006 and refreshed in March 2009. The aim of the strategy is 'to reduce the risk from international terrorism, so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence.'

CONTEST has four strands, often known as the four Ps. The aims of the 4 Ps are:

- **PREVENT** - to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting violent extremism
- **PURSUE** - to stop terrorist attacks through disruption, investigation and detection
- **PREPARE** - where an attack cannot be stopped, to mitigate its impact
- **PROTECT** - to strengthen against terrorist attack, including borders, utilities, transport infrastructure and crowded places

What is Extremism?

The Government has defined extremism as "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". This also includes calls for the death of members of the British armed forces.

What is 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. The use of threat must be designed to influence the Government or to intimidate the public and is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause.

What is Radicalisation?

People can be drawn into violence or they can be exposed to the messages of extremists by many means. The risk of radicalisation is the product of a number of factors and identifying this risk requires that staff exercise their professional judgement, seeking further advice as necessary. It may be combined with other vulnerabilities or may be the only risk identified. Potential indicators include:

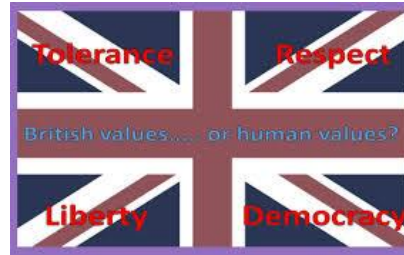
- Use of inappropriate language
- Possession of violent extremist literature
- Behavioural changes
- The expression of extremist views
- Advocating violent actions and means
- Association with known extremists
- Seeking to recruit others to an extremist ideology

The Government has defined extremism as "vocal or active opposition to fundamental British Values", which include:

- Individual liberty
- Rule of law
- Democracy
- Mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

This includes not discriminating against those with protected characteristics (Equality Act 2010), namely:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion and belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation



Channel

What is Channel?

Channel is an early intervention multi-agency process designed to safeguard vulnerable people from being drawn into violent extremist or terrorist behaviour. Channel works in a similar way to existing safeguarding partnerships aimed at protecting vulnerable people.

Who does Channel work with?

Channel is designed to work with individuals of any age who are at risk of being exploited by extremist or terrorist ideologues. The process is shaped around the circumstances of each person and can provide support for any form of radicalisation or personal vulnerabilities.

How does Channel work?

Each Channel Panel is chaired by a local authority and brings together a range of multi-agency partners to collectively assess the risk and can decide whether a support package is needed. This may include statutory and non-statutory partners, as well as lead safeguarding professionals. If the DSL feels the person would be suitable for Channel, it will look to develop a package of support that is bespoke to the person. The partnership approach ensures those with specific knowledge and expertise around the vulnerabilities of those at risk are able to work together to provide the best support.

What does Channel support look like?

Channel interventions are delivered through local partners and specialist agencies. The support may focus on a person's vulnerabilities around health, education, employment or housing, as well as specialist mentoring or faith guidance and broader diversionary activities such as sport. Each support package is tailored to the person and their particular circumstances.

How will the person be involved in this process?

A person will always be informed first if it's felt that they would benefit from Channel support. The process is voluntary and their consent would be needed before taking part in the process. This process is managed carefully by the Channel Panel.

Who can make a referral?

Anyone can make a referral. Referrals come from a wide range of partners including education, health, youth offending teams, police and social services.

What happens with the referral?

Referrals are first screened for suitability through a preliminary assessment by the Channel Coordinator and the local authority. If suitable, the case is then discussed at a Channel panel of relevant partners to decide if support is necessary. Raising a concern If you believe that someone is vulnerable to being exploited or radicalised, please use the established safeguarding or duty of care procedures within your organisation to escalate your concerns to the appropriate leads, who can raise concerns to Channel if appropriate.

Safer Recruitment

The HR Team at Educationwise carries out a safe recruitment process and ensures that all appropriate checks are carried out on new staff that will work or come into contact with children and adults at risk in line with the Disclosure and Barring Service requirements. Our HR Teams Recruitment policy has further details on recruitment procedures.

Disclosure and Barring Service Checks

The Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) is an executive agency of the Home Office and its primary purpose is to help employers make safer recruitment decisions and appointments. By conducting checks and providing details of criminal records and other relevant information, DBS helps to identify applicants who may be unsuitable for certain work and positions, especially those involving contact with children (those less than 18 years old) or adults at risk.

Depending on the type and regularity of contact with children or adults at risk involved in a particular role, employers are entitled to make appropriate types of enquiry about the applicant's criminal record and seek a disclosure through a DBS check.

Educationwise can undertake five types of criminal records checks depending on the role applied for:

1. Standard DBS check

This will be for positions that are included in the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (ROA) 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975. This type of check contains details of individual's convictions, cautions, reprimands or warnings recorded on police central records and includes both 'spent' and 'unspent' convictions that will be shown on a criminal records check.

2. Enhanced DBS check

This will be for positions included in both the ROA 1974 Exceptions Order and in the Police Act 1997 regulations. This type of check contains the same details as the standard check plus any information held locally by police forces that it is reasonably considered to be relevant to the post applied for.

3. Enhanced DBS & barred list check (child)

An enhanced check with information from the DBS's children's barred list is only available for those individuals engaged in regulated activity with children and a small number of posts as listed in the Police Act 1997 regulations.

4. Enhanced DBS & barred list check (adult)

An enhanced check with information from the DBS's adults barred list is only available for those individuals engaged in regulated activity with adults and a small number of posts as listed in the Police Act 1997 regulations.

5. Enhanced DBS & barred list check (child and adult)

An enhanced check with information from the DBS's children and adults barred list is only available for those individuals engaged in regulated activity with both vulnerable s including children and a small number of posts as listed in the Police Act regulations.

Keeping Yourself Safe

To maintain yours and the learner's safety, the following are strictly prohibited:

- Befriending learners on personal social media sites
- Distributing personal telephone numbers
- Visit learners at home or transporting learners to and from locations (this includes travelling in the car with a learner driving)
- Do not use sarcasm, insults or belittling comments towards learners
- Personal relationships with learners

It also important to be mindful of the following when conducting yourself:

- You will naturally build a rapport with learners through the apprenticeship contact, and the learners may see you as a confident and support but be sure to maintain professional boundaries whenever carrying out work on Educationwise's behalf.
- Be respectful of all young and vulnerable people, and appreciate you are in a position of trust. We have the opportunity to listen to their concerns and support them.
- Uphold confidentiality within certain remits when required by the situation but be careful not to promise to keep secrets or ask others to do so.
- Avoid spending time alone with learners in a closed environment. If this is unavoidable for example during a formal assessment/ examination ensure a member of the site staff is aware where you are and monitors this.
- Be careful when giving learner advice – as this is based on your opinion, focus support on information (facts) and guidance (signposting).
- If at any point, you feel unsafe in a learner's company inform the site manager, your line manager, the designated safeguarding officer and leave the premises.

'Whistle Blowing'

It is acknowledged that there may be times where the staff 'witness' an incident, action or event that may give them cause for concern.

If any member of staff witnesses a potential safeguarding issue, they must treat it as a matter of urgency and contact one of our Designated Safeguarding Team.

Any concern must be documented and emailed to the Designated Safeguarding Lead within 2 hours of the disclosure. Unless the child is in immediate harm, where the relevant authorities will be contacted immediately.

In this situation ensure that the child is accompanied and kept safe until the relevant authorities arrive.

We are committed to the safety and security of all learners at all times whilst in our care equally, we are committed to the safety and security of all staff at all times whilst within Educationwise premises.

Therefore, we recognise the issues and concerns in regard to reporting concerns regarding the care and welfare of the learners within the business.

- All staff are required to share any concerns in regard to any staff practices that compromise the
- safety of the learners to a designated safeguarding officer.
- Failure to notify the designated safeguarding officer of any concerns regarding any incidents, events or practice by individual staff will result in referral to the safeguarding team, Ofsted and the police for investigation.
- Where external authorities are conducting their own enquiries, our own investigation will run in parallel without jeopardy to any official enquiries and the member of staff will be placed on

suspension.

- Any staff member who discloses a concern will be given assurance of confidentiality as far as practically possible, without jeopardy to any investigations by external authorities or our own investigation
- Any staff member expressing a concern about their safety following a disclosure will be given all necessary support to enable them to continue in their role with security safely.

Reporting a Concern

If the learner has a concern over their own personal welfare and wellbeing, you are to listen to and record all information given, making no judgement or assumptions. Take any actions required to secure the immediate safety of the child or adult at risk if deemed appropriate, this may involve staying with them until a responsible adult can be located. This will only be recorded on the reporting form if learner agrees and raised with the SDSO if learner agrees. You must report the issue to the designated officer, regardless of whether the learner agrees.

The designated officer will then decide the appropriate course of action, and if a referral outside the organisation is appropriate.

If a learner/ parent has a concern/ allegation about a member of Educationwise's staff:

- All learners are to be informed that if they have a concern over their own personal welfare and wellbeing that they do not feel comfortable talking to their tutor about, they are to contact 3aaa Apprenticeships Designated Officer.
- Contact details for the designated person are available in this policy and on Educationwise external website.
- If a parent contacts you to report a concern about their child. Ensure you listen and record the details as per a learner reporting a concern to you.
- Ensure you have contact details for the parent. You must report the issue to the designated officer. The designated officer will then decide the appropriate course of action, and if a referral outside the organisation is appropriate, liaise with the parent as appropriate.
- Be mindful of confidentiality as all learners aged 16 and above and of employed status are deemed to be adults, and therefore no information should be passed to parents or carers without prior content to do so from the learner.
- If you observe a safeguarding issue taking place within the working practices of an employer's setting - example would be a practitioner hitting a child or observing inappropriate restraint techniques. Take action to stop the activity immediately, and inform the individual of your concerns, ask them to remove themselves from the area and advise them you will inform their senior manager.
- Take any actions to secure the safety of the child or adult at risk, this may involve staying with them until a responsible adult can be located. Inform your designated safeguarding officer. Be mindful of differences between poor practice and a safeguarding issue and apply your action appropriately.
- If a learner reports unsafe practices or safeguarding issues to you within their working environment advise the learner to follow in house reporting or whistle blowing procedures. You may support the learner in speaking to the appropriate senior team members. Report the incident to your designated safeguarding officer who will offer additional guidance and signposting for the learner and will monitor.
- It is important you do not pass any information to other parties or try to investigate the concern yourself. All concerns should be reported to the designated safeguarding officer as soon as possible.