EVERSLEY PRIMARY

SCHOOL POLICY

Prevent Duty, Radicalisation and Extremism

Implemented: 7th July 2026

Date for review: Autumn 2029

Prevent Duty, Radicalisation and Extremism Policy

Purpose and principles

Eversley Primary School is committed to safeguarding every child from harm, including the risk of being drawn into terrorism. The Prevent duty is part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities, not a separate disciplinary process. We aim to identify concerns early, respond proportionately and secure appropriate support.

We respect freedom of thought, conscience, religion and expression. A child's faith, ethnicity, political opinions, identity, curiosity or disagreement with others is not, on its own, evidence of radicalisation. Decisions must be based on the child's circumstances, behaviour and credible indicators of risk, without stereotyping or discrimination.

Statutory framework and related policies

This policy has regard to section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015; Prevent duty guidance for England and Wales (2023, in force from 31 December 2023); Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026; and current Department for Education practical guidance for designated safeguarding leads (updated October 2026). The school also acts consistently with relevant equality, human rights, data protection and information-sharing requirements. Where guidance changes, the current statutory guidance takes precedence.

Understanding the risk

Radicalisation is the process by which a person comes to legitimise support for, or the use of, terrorist violence. Prevent seeks to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. Risk may arise from online or offline contact, manipulation, grooming or exposure to extremist narratives; it may involve different ideologies or no clear single ideology.

Possible indicators include sustained expressions of support for terrorist violence; sharing terrorist propaganda; attempts to recruit others; concerning contact with extremist networks; or a fixation on weapons or explosives alongside other contextual warning signs. No single indicator establishes risk. Staff must consider age, developmental stage, SEND, vulnerabilities, protective factors and the wider context, and must not investigate independently.

Responsibilities

The governing body oversees compliance and ensures an appropriate risk assessment and action plan are in place. The headteacher ensures this policy is implemented, staff have resources and training, and appropriate links are maintained with local safeguarding partners and Prevent contacts.

The DSL (and trained deputies) leads on assessment, consultation, referrals, record keeping, information sharing and support plans. All staff, volunteers and governors must recognise concerns, report promptly and follow safeguarding procedures. Staff should read Part One of Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026.

Preventing harm through school life

The school promotes its values through age-appropriate PSHE, RE, computing, citizenship-related learning, assemblies and the wider curriculum, pupils learn respect, critical thinking, media literacy, online safety, healthy disagreement and how to seek help.

Teaching supports democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. Staff do not promote partisan political views; political issues are approached in an age-

appropriate, balanced way. Discussion is encouraged within boundaries that protect pupils from intimidation, hatred and harmful material.

Visitors and external speakers are checked and supervised in line with safeguarding procedures.

Online safety and filtering

The school maintains appropriate filtering and monitoring arrangements, with named responsibility, regular review and escalation of concerns, consistent with the current DfE filtering and monitoring standards. These controls complement, but do not replace, supervision, safeguarding education and staff vigilance.

Staff report concerning online material or contact to the DSL and follow the school's online safety and incident procedures. They must not deliberately seek out, download, circulate or forward suspected terrorist material as part of their own investigation. Evidence should be preserved safely following DSL or police advice.

Reporting and response: staff procedure

1. If a child or anyone else is in immediate danger, call 999 and take urgent safeguarding action. Inform the DSL or headteacher as soon as safe.

2. For any non-emergency concern, inform the DSL or deputy without delay, ideally the same day. Record factual observations, exact words where possible, dates, context and actions on the school's approved safeguarding recording system.

3. Do not promise confidentiality, challenge a child confrontationally, conduct searches or investigations, or wait for proof. Listen calmly and reassure the child that the concern will be passed to people who can help.

4. The DSL assesses the concern alongside other safeguarding information, consults local authority safeguarding or Prevent professionals as appropriate, and decides whether to refer to children's social care, police or Prevent. The DSL records the rationale, actions, information shared and follow-up. A Prevent referral is a request for assessment and support, not a finding of wrongdoing.

5. Where appropriate, the DSL considers the child's wishes, parents/carers and any risk of involving them; plans support; and keeps the case under review. If the DSL is unavailable, staff must not delay necessary safeguarding action. If concerns are not addressed, follow the school's escalation and whistleblowing procedures.

Concerns about the conduct of an adult working with children must follow the school's allegations/low-level concerns procedures, including referral to the local authority designated officer where applicable. Concerns about the headteacher should be reported to the chair of governors.

Channel and multi-agency working

Where a Prevent referral meets the relevant threshold, the school may consider support through Channel, the multi-agency early-intervention programme. The DSL shares relevant and proportionate information lawfully, and coordinates school-based support. Participation in Channel support is voluntary. A child may also need other safeguarding or early-help services regardless of the Prevent outcome.

Information sharing and confidentiality

Records are accurate, factual, secure, access-controlled and retained under the school's safeguarding retention arrangements. Personal information is shared only where lawful, necessary and proportionate for safeguarding or statutory purposes. Consent is not always required for safeguarding information sharing; staff

should seek DSL advice rather than allow uncertainty to delay protection. Families and pupils are treated respectfully, with information disclosed only on a need-to-know basis.

Training, risk assessment and assurance

Prevent is included in induction and regular safeguarding updates. DSLs receive role-appropriate training and maintain awareness of referral routes, local risks and current guidance. The school reviews its Prevent risk assessment at least annually and following significant incidents or changes, considering local context, online risks, curriculum, premises, visitors, IT controls and staff capability.

The governing body reviews implementation, lessons learned and actions arising from audits, training and incidents. This policy is reviewed annually and updated earlier if law, guidance or risk changes.

July 2026