



Implementation Date	September 2026
Review Date	September 2027
Reviewer	Liam Donovan

Longwood School and Nursery

Prevent Duty Policy

1. Purpose

Longwood School and Nursery is committed to keeping children safe from the risk of radicalisation and involvement in terrorism. Prevent is part of our wider safeguarding arrangements. We will identify concerns early, respond proportionately and work with families and other agencies where needed.

2. What is Prevent?

Prevent is the part of the Government's CONTEST strategy that aims to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. The Prevent duty requires schools to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

Prevent is not about criminalising children or young people. It is about early safeguarding and support.

3. Our responsibilities

- Have clear safeguarding arrangements for Prevent.
- Know the signs that a child may be vulnerable to radicalisation.
- Provide appropriate staff training and refresher training.
- Promote a safe, respectful environment where different views can be discussed.
- Teach children age-appropriate skills to question information, recognise harmful content and stay safe online.
- Use suitable filtering and monitoring arrangements.
- Assess risks linked to visitors, external speakers, activities and online content.
- Work with Hertfordshire County Council, the police and other safeguarding partners when concerns arise.

- Keep accurate, proportionate and confidential records.

4. Who is responsible?

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) has day-to-day responsibility for Prevent within the school.

DSL: Liam Donovan / Kirsty Nakabale

Deputy DSL: Susan Howard / Alison Lapihuska

Prevent Lead / SPOC (if different): Liam Donovan

The Headteacher and Governing Body/Proprietor have overall responsibility for ensuring the school meets its safeguarding and Prevent responsibilities.

5. What might cause concern?

There is no single profile of a child who may be vulnerable to radicalisation. Staff should consider changes in behaviour alongside the child's circumstances and wider safeguarding information.

- Becoming withdrawn, isolated or unusually secretive.
- A sudden change in behaviour, friends, interests or online activity.
- Expressing or sharing extremist or intolerant views.
- Using 'them and us' language or showing increasing hostility towards people because of their identity or beliefs.
- Showing an unusual interest in extremist groups, causes, violence or terrorism.
- Trying to recruit or influence others.
- Sharing or accessing extremist material online.
- Being exposed to extremist views through adults, peers, social media, gaming or other online spaces.
- Any other behaviour that makes a member of staff concerned about a child's safety.

A single sign does not mean that a child is being radicalised. Staff should report concerns rather than trying to investigate them themselves.

6. What staff should do

- Listen calmly and take the concern seriously.
- Do not promise confidentiality.
- Do not investigate or challenge the child about the concern beyond what is appropriate for safeguarding.
- Record the concern factually and promptly.
- Speak to the DSL as soon as possible.
- The DSL will decide whether further safeguarding action or a Prevent referral is needed.
- If there is an immediate risk of harm or a suspected terrorist incident, contact the police on 999.

7. Referral and support

The DSL will follow Hertfordshire's current Prevent and safeguarding referral arrangements. A referral may lead to advice, safeguarding support or consideration for Channel. Channel is a voluntary, multi-agency programme which can provide tailored support to people who may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism.

Hertfordshire Prevent contact: prevent@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Action Counters Terrorism Early Support Line: 0800 011 3764

Immediate danger: 999

8. Online safety

The school recognises that children may encounter extremist or harmful content online, including through social media, video platforms, messaging, gaming and online communities. Staff should report concerns through the school's safeguarding system. Filtering and monitoring will be reviewed regularly and concerns about online access will be considered alongside the child's wider safeguarding needs.

9. Curriculum and school culture

We will promote a culture in which children can ask questions, disagree respectfully and understand different viewpoints. Teaching will support age-appropriate understanding of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance. Prevent will be delivered through the wider curriculum and safeguarding work rather than as a stand-alone topic.

10. Visitors and external activities

- Visitors and external speakers must be suitable and appropriately checked.
- The school will consider safeguarding and Prevent risks before agreeing to external speakers or activities.
- Staff should not allow children to be exposed to extremist material or views that encourage terrorism or violence.
- Off-site activities and visitors will follow the school's normal safeguarding procedures.

11. Equality and safeguarding

Prevent concerns will be handled fairly and proportionately. The school will not treat a child as a safeguarding concern simply because of their religion, ethnicity, nationality, political views or family background. Concerns will be based on behaviour, vulnerability, context and evidence.

12. Training

All staff will receive safeguarding information that includes Prevent. Staff with specific safeguarding responsibilities will complete appropriate Prevent training and keep their knowledge up to date.

13. Record keeping and information sharing

Prevent concerns will be recorded through the school's safeguarding systems. Information will be shared only when appropriate and in line with safeguarding and data protection requirements. Relevant information will be shared with partner agencies when this is necessary to protect a child.

14. Policy links and references

This policy should be read with the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, Online Safety Policy, Behaviour Policy, Equality Policy and relevant risk assessments.

Key external guidance includes: Keeping Children Safe in Education; the Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales; DfE Prevent guidance for education settings; and Hertfordshire County Council Prevent and safeguarding guidance.