



Lancaster Christ Church C of E Primary School

Have Faith... In yourself... In others... In God.

Prevent Policy

Introduction

Lancaster Christ Church C of E Primary School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils, and to providing a secure environment, where children feel safe and are kept safe. All adults in our school recognise that **safeguarding is everyone's responsibility** irrespective of the role they undertake or whether their role has direct contact or responsibility for children or not.

At Lancaster Christ Church, we recognise that safeguarding vulnerable people from radicalisation is no different from safeguarding them from other forms of harm.

All staff and visitors to the school 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.

What is Prevent?

"The aim of Prevent is to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. Delivery of Prevent is grounded in early intervention and safeguarding." (Chanel Duty Guidance: protecting people susceptible to radicalisation (2023)).

Prevent is one the key elements of the Government's counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST, and has three objectives:

- to tackle the ideological causes of terrorism
- to intervene early to support people to stop them from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism; and
- to rehabilitate those who have engaged in terrorist activity.

Since July 2015, all schools (as well as other organisations) have a duty to safeguard children from radicalisation and extremism. This means that we have a responsibility to protect children from extremist and violent views, in the same way we would seek to protect them from other potential dangers and influences.

Aims and Objectives of the Policy

The main aims of this policy statement are to ensure that staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalisation; that they overcome professional disbelief that such issues will 'not happen here' and ensure that we work alongside other professional bodies and agencies to ensure that our pupils are safe from harm.

The principle objectives are that:

- All Staff and Governors will have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- All Staff and Governors will know what the school policy is on anti-radicalisation and extremism and will follow the policy when issues arise.

"For nothing will be impossible with God" Luke 1:37



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- All parents and pupils will know that the school has policies in place to keep pupils safe from harm and that the school regularly reviews its systems to ensure they are appropriate and effective.

Definitions

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 vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

Who is vulnerable?

Prevent Duty Guidance (2023) states that *“A person’s susceptibility to radicalisation may be linked to their vulnerability. A person can be vulnerable if they need special care, support or protection because of age, disability, risk of abuse or neglect. A person’s vulnerabilities may be relevant to their susceptibility to radicalisation and to the early intervention approach that is required to divert them away from radicalisation.*

In other cases, vulnerabilities may not be present or relevant to the early intervention approach required. Not all people susceptible to radicalisation will be vulnerable, and there are other circumstances, needs or other underlying factors that may make a person susceptible to radicalisation but do not constitute a vulnerability.”

As with all issues relating to safeguarding, at Lancaster Christ Church, we maintain a mind-set of **“it could happen here”**. Therefore, we recognise that **anyone** can potentially become vulnerable to extremist narratives.

Identifying children who may be at risk is difficult, as children today have open and unrestricted access to extensive information. At Lancaster Christ Church we recognise that we need to teach skills of critical thinking and questioning the validity of sources.

We must also ensure that children know:

- that they have a voice;
- that they can have differing beliefs and views to others,
- that they are valued members of society who can make an impact on society and bring about change for the better.

Potential Indicators

The Prevent Duty Guidance (2023) states that *“There is no single model of a person’s radicalisation journey or single profile of a radicalised person. Frontline professionals, when deciding whether to make a referral, should consider whether they believe the person they are concerned about may be on a pathway that could lead to terrorism.”*



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At Lancaster Christ Church, we recognise that there is no definite checklist of behaviours or warning signs that a child may be at risk of Radicalisation, just as for other child protection issues, however all staff will be aware of potential indicators identified by the Channel Guidance, including:

- accessing extremist content online or downloading propaganda material
- justifying the use of violence to solve societal issues
- altering their style of dress or appearance to accord with an extremist group
- being unwilling to engage with people who they see as different
- using certain symbols associated with terrorist organisations

‘Get help for Radicalisation Concerns’ (2024): Home Office

Online Radicalisation

Online radicalisation refers to the process by which an individual is groomed through the online environment to come to support terrorist or extremist ideologies. Online material used in the process may include articles, images, speeches or videos that promote terrorism or encourage violence.

At Lancaster Christ Church, we recognise that online radicalisation is a form of grooming and should an incident occur, will follow safeguarding procedures relating to such.

Keeping Children Safe in Education obliges schools to “ensure appropriate filters and appropriate monitoring systems are in place [and] not be able to access harmful or inappropriate material [but at the same time] be careful that “over blocking” does not lead to unreasonable restrictions as to what children can be taught with regards to online teaching and safeguarding.”

At this school, the internet connection is provided by BTLS. This means we have a dedicated and secure, school safe connection that is protected with firewalls and multiple layers of security, including a web filtering system, which is made specifically to protect children in schools.

School utilises the ‘School Filter Checking Utility’, developed by the South West Grid for Learning to ensure that websites on the Counter-Terrorism Internet Referral Unit list (CTIRU) are blocked.

School regularly promotes the importance of staying safe online with children and their parents. Further information can be found within our ‘Online Safety’ Policy.

Instances of online extremist materials will be reported via the dedicated Home Office reporting facility: ‘Reporting Online Material Promoting Terrorism or Extremism’ using the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/report-terrorism>

Procedure for Referrals

Early intervention is vital in order to protect people who are vulnerable. Staff must be aware of the established processes for front line professionals to refer concerns about individuals and/or groups.

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We must have the confidence to challenge, the confidence to intervene and ensure that we have strong safeguarding practices based on the most up-to-date guidance and best practice.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead will deal swiftly with any concerns reported by staff, and will decide on the appropriate course of action on a case-by-case basis. Advice regarding individual cases may be obtained from the Police Prevent Team. and will decide when a referral to external agencies is needed.

The Channel Referral process outlined on the Schools Portal will be used to guide the DSL in making the referral.

The DSL should consider whether a situation may be so serious that an emergency response is required. In this situation, a 999 call should be made.

What is Channel?

Channel was first piloted in 2007 and rolled out across England and Wales in April 2012. Channel is a programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. The programme uses a multi-agency approach to protect vulnerable people by: a. identifying individuals at risk; b. assessing the nature and extent of that risk; and c. developing the most appropriate support plan for the individuals concerned.

Channel may be appropriate for anyone who is vulnerable to being drawn into any form of terrorism. Channel is about ensuring that vulnerable children and adults of any faith, ethnicity or background receive support before their vulnerabilities are exploited by those that would want them to embrace terrorism, and before they become involved in criminal terrorist related activity.

The Role of the Curriculum

Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. We are committed to ensuring that our pupils are offered a broad and balanced curriculum that aims to prepare them for life in modern Britain.

Children 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.

Our PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education), Citizenship and SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) provision is embedded across the curriculum, and underpins the ethos of the school.

Teaching the schools' core values alongside the fundamental British values supports quality teaching and learning, whilst making a positive contribution to the development of a fair, just and civil society.

Children are regularly taught 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 adult help if they are upset or concerned about anything they read or see on the Internet.



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The Role of All Staff

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all pupils is **everyone's** responsibility.

All staff at Lancaster Christ Church will engage in annual training, as well as regular briefings, to ensure that they are aware of Prevent and their role within it.

Any member of staff with concerns about a child's vulnerability to extremism or risk of radicalisation should make a clear written record of the concerns they have heard or witnessed using CPOMs and report their concerns in person to the DSL.

All staff will adhere to the school's Code of Conduct at all times.

The Role of the Designated Safeguard Lead (DSL)

The Designated Safeguarding Lead works in line with the responsibilities as set out in the DfE Statutory Guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (2024). The Designated Safeguarding Lead is the person to whom school staff, and others, report, if they have concerns about an individual child's safety or wellbeing. The DSL is also the first point of contact for external agencies.

At Lancaster Christ Church C of E Primary School, role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead also includes responsibilities as Prevent Lead.

The **Designated Safeguarding Lead** is Miss Emma Simpson (Headteacher).

The **Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead** is Mrs Gemma Hooper (Deputy Headteacher).

Miss Emma Simpson also takes responsibility for the role of **Prevent Lead**.

Where concerns are raised about a child's vulnerability to extremism or risk of radicalisation, the DSL will manage these concerns in accordance with the procedure for referrals.

The Role of the Governing Body

The Governing Body of our School will undertake appropriate training to ensure that they are clear about their role and the parameters of their responsibilities as Governors, including their statutory safeguarding duties.

At the beginning of each academic year, all governors are provided with a copy of 'Keeping Children Safe in Education', and are required to complete a quiz which demonstrates their engagement with the document. The document is then discussed at the first full governing board meeting in the Autumn term.

'Keeping Children Safe in Education' is revisited at the full governing board meeting in the Spring term, and all governors are required to complete a revision quiz.

The Governing Body will support the ethos and values of our school and will support the school in tackling extremism and radicalisation. In line with the provisions set out in the DfE guidance 'Keeping



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Children Safe in Education 2023' the governing body will challenge the school's senior management team on the delivery of this policy and monitor its effectiveness.

The **nominated governor Prevent governor** is Mrs Sarah Shepherd.

Mrs Shepherd attended 'WRAP (Workshop to Raise Awareness of PREVENT) and the current threat for Governors' training on 8th July 2024. This training will be repeated every 3 years.

Recruitment

The arrangements for recruiting all staff and volunteers to our school will follow statutory guidance outlined within Part 3 of 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (2023): Safer Recruitment. This includes, but is not limited to, ensuring that DBS checks are always made at the appropriate level; that references are always received and checked, and that we complete and maintain a single central record of such vetting checks.

We will be alert to the possibility that persons may seek to gain positions within schools so as to unduly influence the schools character and ethos. We are aware that such persons seek to limit the opportunities for our pupils thereby rendering them vulnerable to extremist views and radicalisation as a consequence. Therefore, by adhering to safer recruitment best practice techniques and by ensuring that there is an ongoing culture of vigilance within our school and staff team we will minimise the opportunities for extremist views to prevail.

Use of External Agencies and Speakers

We encourage the use of external agencies or speakers to enrich the experiences of our pupils, however we will positively vet those external agencies, individuals or speakers who we engage to provide such learning opportunities or experiences for our pupils.

Such vetting is to ensure that we do not unwittingly use agencies that contradict each other with their messages or that are inconsistent with, or are in complete opposition to, the school's values and ethos.

We must be aware that in some instances the work of external agencies may not directly be connected with the rest of the school curriculum so we need to ensure that this work is of benefit to all pupils. Our school will therefore assess the suitability and effectiveness of input from external agencies or individuals to ensure that:

- All messages communicated to pupils are consistent with the ethos of the school and do not marginalise any communities, groups or individuals.
- All Activities are properly embedded in the curriculum and clearly mapped to schemes of work and matched to the needs of pupils.

By delivering a broad and balanced curriculum, augmented by the use of external sources where appropriate, we will strive to ensure our pupils recognise risk and build resilience to manage any such risk themselves where appropriate to their age and ability, but also to help pupils develop the critical thinking skills needed to engage in informed debate.



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Staff Training

Lancaster Christ Church are committed to ensuring that all staff have access to appropriate training through INSET opportunities in school, courses run by external providers both on and off the school site, and e-learning units.

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.

All staff undertake annual Prevent training using the Home Office Prevent e-learning module or through Lancashire's Prevent Education Officer.

The Prevent Lead (Emma Simpson) attended Prevent Lead Training on 25th March 2026. This training will be repeated every 3 years.

Staff are regularly updated in regard to issues relating to the safeguarding of children from extremism and radicalisation using the Lancashire Safeguarding Children Board's '7-Minute Briefings' during staff meetings.

Sources of information

Further information regarding Prevent for schools can be accessed via Lancashire's Prevent for Schools website: www.preventforschools.org/ as well as HM Governments 'Educate against Hate' website: www.educateagainsthate.com/.

Such sites will be utilised in school to support delivery in line with the aims of the revised Prevent Strategy, and resources used to compliment the advice issued by the DfE regarding 'Promoting fundamental British Values through SMSC' released in 2014.

Contact Information

Lancashire Prevent Delivery Officer Team

Prevent.team@blackburn.gov.uk

01254 585260

lpreventblackburn.org.uk/

Prevent Delivery Officers (Lancaster)

Laura Gornall: laura.gornall@blackburn.gov.uk

01254 585994

Prevent referrals:

concern@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

Counter Terrorism Policing North West (Lancashire & Cumbria)



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01282 472329

01282 472323

concern@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

Anti-Terrorism Hotline

0800 789 321

Documentation

The following documents have been referenced in developing this policy:

- Prevent Duty Guidance: for England and Wales (2023): HM Government
- The Prevent duty: safeguarding learners vulnerable to radicalisation (2023): DfE
- Understanding and identifying radicalisation risk in your education setting (2023) DfE
- Managing risk of Radicalisation in your education setting (2023): DfE
- ‘Get help for radicalisation concerns’ (2024) DfE
- ‘Keeping Children Safe in Education’ (2024): Department for Education

The following websites have been referenced in developing this policy:

- <https://panlancashirescb.proceduresonline.com/>
- <http://educateagainsthate.com/>
- <http://www.preventforschools.org/>

Policy Adoption, Monitoring and Review

This policy will also be made available via the school website.

The Headteacher will actively evaluate the effectiveness of this policy by monitoring the staff group’s understanding and application of the procedures within this policy as their overall duty to safeguard children.

This policy was reviewed by the Board of Governors of Christ Church Church of England Primary School on: 24th March 2026

The scheduled review date of this policy is: March 2027.

Signed:

(Chair of Governors)

Date:



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REVIEW

The information in the table below details earlier versions of this document with a brief description of each review and how to distinguish amendments made since the previous version date (if any).

Version Number	Version Description	Date of Revision
1	Original	January 2020
2	Added new header and footer	February 2021
3	Updated sections relating to training	May 2021
4	Added information about frequency of training for Nominated Governor / Prevent Lead	March 2023
5	Completely reviewed in light of updated Prevent Duty Guidance	March 2024
6	Updated dates as relevant	March 2025
7	Updated dates as relevant	March 2026