

St. Luke's C of E (Aided) Primary School



PREVENT DUTY POLICY 2026-29

Safeguarding pupils from radicalisation into terrorism

Policy owner / Prevent Lead	Mr P. Phillips, Headteacher and DSL
Deputy DSLs	Miss L. Tomlinson, Mr M. Bell and Miss S. Phillipson
Approved by	Governing Body
Approval date	September 2026
Review date	September 2029, or earlier if guidance or local procedures change

1. Statement of intent

St. Luke's recognises that children may be susceptible to radicalisation into terrorism. Protecting pupils from this risk is part of our wider safeguarding responsibility and is approached in the same child-centred, proportionate and supportive way as other safeguarding concerns.

The aim of Prevent is to stop people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. The school will act early where there is a concern, work with parents/carers and partner agencies where appropriate, and seek support that protects the child and others.

Prevent is not about labelling pupils because of their faith, culture, background, political views or a single behaviour. Staff use professional curiosity and judgement, consider the wider context, and follow the school's safeguarding procedures. Pupils are supported to discuss difficult or controversial issues safely, think critically, respect difference and challenge harmful or intolerant ideas.

This policy should be read alongside the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, Online Safety Policy, Behaviour Policy, Equality Information and Objectives, Staff Code of Conduct, visitor arrangements and the school's emergency/lockdown procedures.

2. Legal and guidance framework

The school has due regard to relevant legislation and statutory guidance, including:

- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, including the section 26 Prevent duty;
- Home Office Prevent duty guidance: England and Wales (2023), in force from 31 December 2023;
- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026;
- Department for Education guidance on safeguarding learners susceptible to radicalisation and making a referral to Prevent;
- Home Office Channel Duty Guidance;
- Working Together to Safeguard Children, current statutory guidance;
- Equality Act 2010, Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR.

The governing body and school leaders will ensure that Prevent is embedded within the school's wider safeguarding arrangements and that the school's response remains proportionate to its pupils, phase, context and identified risks.

3. Definitions

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

Radicalisation is the process of a person legitimising support for, or use of, terrorist violence.

Terrorism includes serious violence, serious damage to property or serious interference with an electronic system where the use or threat is designed to influence government or intimidate the public for a political, religious or ideological cause.

Susceptibility describes circumstances in which a person may be open or vulnerable to radicalising influences. There is no single profile or checklist that establishes that a child is being radicalised.

4. Roles and responsibilities

The Governing Body

- ensures the Prevent duty is understood as part of the school's wider safeguarding responsibilities;

- assures itself that appropriate safeguarding policies, risk assessment, training and referral arrangements are in place;
- ensures there is a senior designated lead for Prevent and that leaders understand local and national risk;
- receives appropriate assurance about the effectiveness of the school's arrangements without receiving unnecessary identifiable pupil information.

Headteacher / DSL / Prevent Lead

Mr P. Phillips, Headteacher and DSL, is the school's Prevent Lead. He is responsible for the overall implementation of this policy, supported by the Deputy DSLs: Miss L. Tomlinson, Mr M. Bell and Miss S. Phillipson.

- maintaining an appropriate Prevent risk assessment and action plan;
- ensuring staff understand how to identify, record and share concerns;
- maintaining awareness of relevant local, regional and national risks and seeking advice when required;
- ensuring appropriate Prevent training and updates for staff and DSLs;
- considering and making Prevent referrals where appropriate, and cooperating with Channel and other safeguarding partners;
- ensuring online safety, visitor/speaker arrangements and use of school premises take account of Prevent risks.

All staff

- remain alert to safeguarding concerns that may indicate susceptibility to radicalisation;
- complete required Prevent and safeguarding training;
- record and report concerns promptly to the DSL or a Deputy DSL in accordance with safeguarding procedures;
- do not investigate concerns themselves or rely on stereotypes or a checklist of characteristics;
- use professional judgement and act proportionately, recognising that Prevent is a safeguarding process.

5. Prevent risk assessment and action plan

St. Luke's maintains a Prevent risk assessment which considers how pupils or staff may be at risk of radicalisation into terrorism, including through online activity. It takes account of the school's age range and context, national and local information, emerging concerns and the effectiveness of existing safeguards.

Where a risk is identified, the school will record proportionate actions, identify responsibility and review whether those actions have reduced the risk. The assessment is reviewed regularly and when there is a significant change in threat, local context, guidance or school circumstances.

The risk assessment is an operational safeguarding document. It complements, rather than duplicates, this policy.

6. Identifying and responding to concerns

There is no single way of identifying whether a pupil is susceptible to radicalisation. Concerns may arise from a combination of behaviour, language, relationships, online activity, expressed support for terrorist violence or ideology, threats, contact with concerning individuals or groups, or other safeguarding information.

A change in behaviour, appearance, faith practice or friendship group is not, by itself, evidence of radicalisation. Staff should consider what they have noticed, what else is known about the child, and whether there is a credible safeguarding concern.

Notice - Check - Share

- Notice: identify something that causes concern and remain professionally curious.
- Check: consider the context and, where appropriate, check relevant information with the DSL rather than making assumptions.

- Share: record the concern on CPOMS and speak to the DSL or a Deputy DSL promptly. If a child is at immediate risk, follow the school's urgent safeguarding procedures.

Staff should not delay sharing a concern because they are uncertain whether it meets a Prevent threshold. The DSL will consider the information alongside other safeguarding knowledge and decide the appropriate next step.

7. Referrals, information sharing and Channel

Where the DSL considers that a child may be susceptible to radicalisation into terrorism, the school will consider a Prevent referral in line with national guidance and Nottinghamshire procedures. The purpose of a referral is safeguarding and early support, not to accuse a child of committing a criminal offence.

The school will normally seek to involve the pupil and parents/carers appropriately. Consent and information sharing will be considered in accordance with safeguarding and data protection requirements. Information may be shared without consent where there is a lawful safeguarding reason to do so, including where seeking consent would increase risk.

Prevent referrals may be assessed by Counter Terrorism Policing and other partners. Where appropriate, a case may be considered by Channel, a multi-agency safeguarding panel that can offer voluntary, individualised support. The school will cooperate with relevant partners and continue to consider the pupil's wider safeguarding and educational needs.

For Nottinghamshire, the DSL may seek advice from the Nottinghamshire Police Prevent Team and will use the current local referral route. Contact details are checked at the point of referral rather than fixed in this policy so that outdated details are not relied upon.

8. Curriculum, British values and protective education

St. Luke's builds pupils' resilience through a broad and balanced curriculum, safeguarding education, PSHE, RSHE, online safety and opportunities for thoughtful discussion. Pupils are taught in an age-appropriate way to recognise risk, evaluate information, disagree respectfully and seek help.

The school actively promotes the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. This sits alongside our Christian ethos and our FLOURISH values, particularly Understanding, Integrity, Love, Friendship and Selflessness.

Teaching about Prevent does not prevent staff from discussing controversial or sensitive issues. Pupils should have safe opportunities to ask questions and develop critical thinking. Staff will challenge discriminatory, hateful or extremist narratives appropriately while ensuring that pupils are treated with dignity and respect.

9. Online safety, visitors and use of premises

Online radicalisation is considered within the school's wider online-safety arrangements. Filtering and monitoring, curriculum teaching, staff vigilance and safeguarding procedures work together to reduce the risk that pupils encounter or engage with harmful extremist or terrorist material.

Visitors and external speakers are managed through the school's safeguarding and visitor procedures. The school will take proportionate steps to assure itself that visitors are suitable, appropriately supervised and will not use the school to promote views that undermine fundamental British values or encourage terrorism.

School premises, facilities and digital systems must not be used to promote or facilitate terrorism or radicalising activity.

10. Training

Prevent awareness forms part of the school's safeguarding training. Staff receive information appropriate to their role so that they understand the Prevent duty, current risks, how radicalisation may occur, the importance of online risk, and how to raise a concern.

DSLs and the Prevent Lead undertake more detailed and regularly refreshed training appropriate to their responsibilities, including referral processes, relevant extremist and terrorist ideologies and working with Channel and safeguarding partners.

The school may use current Home Office Prevent training, Educate Against Hate resources and Nottinghamshire advice alongside its own safeguarding training.

11. Recording, confidentiality and transfer

Prevent-related concerns are safeguarding information and will be recorded on CPOMS in accordance with the school's safeguarding procedures. Records will be factual, proportionate and securely maintained.

Information will be shared only where necessary and lawful. Where a pupil transfers to another school or college, the DSL will consider whether relevant Prevent or Channel information needs to be transferred securely so that appropriate support can continue.

12. Monitoring and review

The Headteacher/DSL monitors the implementation of this policy through safeguarding oversight, staff training, review of concerns and referrals, online-safety arrangements and the Prevent risk assessment/action plan. The Governing Body receives appropriate assurance as part of its safeguarding oversight.

This policy will be reviewed by September 2029, or sooner if legislation, statutory guidance, local procedures, identified risks or school circumstances change.

Appendix 1 - Staff quick guide

NOTICE	Something about a pupil's behaviour, words, relationships or online activity causes a safeguarding concern.
CHECK	Do not assume or investigate. Consider context and speak with the DSL/DDSL.
SHARE	Record the concern on CPOMS and pass it promptly to the DSL/DDSL.
DSL ACTION	Assess the concern alongside other safeguarding information; seek advice and/or make a Prevent referral where appropriate.