



Prevent Strategy

South West Prevent: Working with schools and colleges | 2015 Edition

The Prevent strategy aims to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. It is recognised that, while it remains very rare for children and young people to become involved in terrorist activity, young people from an early age can be exposed to terrorist and extremist influences or prejudiced views. As with other forms of safeguarding strategies, early intervention is always preferable. Schools, working with other local partners, families and communities, play a key role in ensuring young people and their communities are safe from the threat of terrorism.

Prevent should be seen as part of the existing school or college **safeguarding** framework; a local approach to ensuring the safety and well-being of all children and young people from birth to age 19.

Each area of the UK has adopted their own definition of **safeguarding**, but these often include the following phrases: protecting children from maltreatment; preventing impairment of children's health or development; ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and taking action to enable children in need to have optimum life chances.

The Prevent strategy identifies that young people are more likely to be vulnerable to violent extremist or terrorist narratives. Schools and colleges have a duty of care to their pupils and staff which includes safeguarding them from the risk of being drawn into terrorism. Being drawn into terrorism includes not just violent extremism but also non-violent extremism, which can create an atmosphere conducive to terrorism and can popularise views which terrorists exploit. Schools should be safe spaces in which children and young people can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and the extremist ideas that are part of the terrorist ideology and learn how to challenge these ideas. The 2014 Government extremism task force identified risks around

radicalisation within educational institutions and it is important that Prevent is actively supporting these institutions to protect children from harm and ensure that they are taught in a way that is consistent with the law and British values values.

British values

All maintained schools must meet the requirements set out in section 78 of the Education Act 2002 and promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of their pupils. Through ensuring pupils' SMSC development, schools can also demonstrate they are actively promoting fundamental British values. Actively promoting the values means challenging opinions or behaviours in school that are contrary to fundamental British values. Attempts to promote systems that undermine fundamental British values would be completely at odds with schools' duty to provide SMSC. The Teachers' Standards expect teachers to uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school. This includes not undermining fundamental British values.

To find guidance on British values within schools visit –

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/promoting-fundamental-british-values-through-smsc>

Ofsted

When assessing the effectiveness of schools, Ofsted inspectors already consider a school's approach to keeping pupils safe from the risk of radicalisation and extremism, and to the institute's procedures when it is suspected that pupils are being drawn into extremism or terrorist-related activity.

Embedding Prevent

Prevent practitioners have identified that embedding Prevent within schools and colleges is challenging and can often depend on an individual institutions response to delivering the strategy. This document has been produced to help support Prevent delivery in schools and colleges and aims to highlight activity and best practice as well as identifying opportunities to manage any potential risks. The tool kit can be used by schools and colleges to embed Prevent focusing on key areas such as staff training, partnership working, on line safety and safeguarding.

Different kinds of schools and colleges

Prevent can work across a number of different kinds of institution. For example, Schools: State maintained; Community; Foundation; Voluntary aided; Academy; Free; Extended; Pupil Referral Unit; Independent; Supplementary. Colleges: Sixth form; General Further Education (FE); Technical; Vocational.

Supplementary provision

There are a range of supplementary schools that provide education outside of normal school hours. For example, Brownies, Scouts, madrassas, Sunday schools etc. An understanding of what is provided would be useful to Prevent, so that offers of assistance and support can be made.

How can your school or college work with the Prevent strategy?

Educational establishments have a clear responsibility to exercise their duty of care and to protect the welfare of their students however it is understood that every school and college is unique. This means that any engagement or activity conducted under Prevent must be considered in light of local circumstances. Prevent support can be adapted to ensure activity is appropriate and proportionate. As the strategy identifies Prevent can work within both violent and non violent extremism arenas and can include topics such as hate crime, racism, bullying, on line safety and extreme political views. This means that the strategy can be delivered in a variety of ways depending on the institution, its requirements and the potential risk.

The table below outlines a number of ways in which Prevent can be incorporated within schools and colleges to support mainstream safeguarding measures. This list is not exhaustive but recommends some key areas of activity. This is supported by the attached Prevent assessment tool which allows an institute to assess its adoption of Prevent. Examples of creative ways in which to incorporate Prevent into schools can also be identified through contacting your local Prevent team.

Suggested action	Example	School headings
Prevent awareness seminars.	Seminars for police, teachers & Local Authority staff, raising awareness of Prevent, improving knowledge of violent ideologies, increasing understanding of aspects of religion and focussing on vulnerability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing risks & responding to events • Pupil Support Processes • Leadership & values
Front line training to teachers.	Raise awareness of Prevent to teachers by delivering inputs within school. These can be set up by the local police Prevent team and cater for a variety of time scales and audience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing risks & responding to events • Pupil Support Processes • Leadership & values
Identify a Prevent lead within school.	Identify a member of staff to act as the point of contact for Prevent issues. This is most likely the safeguarding lead within the school who can liaise with Prevent partners and share information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing risks & responding to events • Pupil Support Processes • Leadership & values
Create an education Prevent Board or steering group to target Prevent issues in education in a specific locality.	Links between schools, colleges and universities are made at an education Prevent board. This consists of key staff who discuss Prevent vulnerability plus engagement with police.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership & values • Managing risks & responding to events
Develop and deliver lessons to pupils on internet safety	Lessons, incorporating case studies which deal with grooming and radicalisation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupil Support Processes • Managing risks & responding to events • Teaching, Learning & the Curriculum
Invite external speakers to discuss Prevent related issues in schools.	Speakers invited into school to encourage debate on Prevent issues. Note: to link to any guidelines to vetting speakers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership & values • Managing risks & responding to events • Teaching, Learning & the Curriculum
Raise awareness to pupils.	In many schools, staff briefings occur regularly. In some schools, pupil briefings are held, during which young people can debate issues around terrorism and extremism. This can include interactive Prevent sessions using a variety of training products.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership & values • Managing risks & responding to events • Pupil Support Processes
Use Pathways DVD	An 18 minute drama about 2 people: one is a white male who becomes involved with a white supremacist group; the other is an Asian male who is influenced by a Muslim group which promotes racial hatred. Encourages debate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership & values • Managing risks & responding to events • Teaching, Learning & the Curriculum • Pupil Support Processes
Incorporate Prevent into lessons	Prevent can support a wide variety of lesson subjects and can be incorporated into topics such as faith, humanity subjects, PSE, citizenship etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing risks & responding to events • Teaching, Learning & the Curriculum • Pupil Support Processes
Create youth council or Parliament to debate topical issues such as extremist behaviour.	A democracy exercise which culminates in debates relating to Prevent. This supports the need for safe debate and freedom of speech within educational institutes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing risks & responding to events • Teaching, Learning & the Curriculum

Intervention activity

Intervention activity is a key element of the Prevent strategy particularly when responding to the ideological challenge we face from terrorism. Police activity can be utilised when delivering intervention activity but often it is partner agency activity that can be the most effective form of intervention. Below is a list of issues which are based on actual incidents, that a school or college may require Prevent intervention.

- Racist graffiti on school/college grounds
- School facilities being hired out by extremist organisations
- Pupil has committed a hate crime offence on school premises
- Pupil espousing racist views at school/college
- Extremist online content being viewed on school computers
- Extremist groups targeting pupils as part of their recruitment process
- Terrorist/extremist propaganda being circulated to pupils via social media
- Student wearing clothing relating to extremist organisation
- Students influencing others with their extreme views

The Prevent strategy offers a range of intervention activity aimed at reducing the risk and threat of terrorist or extremist ideology. This can include training front line staff, providing counter narratives, challenging extremist views and utilising Police and partner agency legislation. The strategy has a portfolio of tactical options available to ensure that any issues are challenged in the most appropriate manner. This ensures that all sensitivities around each case are considered and that the response is proportionate to the specific issue.

Channel

Channel is the national project that protects individuals vulnerable to terrorist or violent extremist activity. This aims to provide interventions in order to move the individual away from terrorism by providing an appropriate multi agency led support package. This is one tactical option employed by Prevent and is supported by national guidance.

Safeguarding processes incorporating Prevent should be employed to manage any potential issue particularly when the student's welfare is at risk or there is the potential for tensions within the student community. Any educational institution should consider the following to minimise the risk:

- Record and monitor incidents/activity
- Report incidents to police

- Share information with police and other relevant partner agencies
- Ensure satisfactory administration processes are in place
- Identify individuals who may be vulnerable
- Feed information to relevant partners via the safeguarding lead
- Implement partnership working to provide intervention
- Staff to be aware of correct reporting procedure and hold relevant contact details

Social media

Social media is an increasingly influential part of life particularly for young people. It has been identified as an important tool in the sharing of extreme material and extremist groups are actively using social media to inform, share propaganda, radicalise and recruit for their cause. Social media safeguarding is an important element of protecting young people from extremist narratives and Prevent can play an active part in this process.

To report any online terrorist related online material visit:

www.gov.uk/report-terrorism

Resources and Training

- **WRAP (Workshop Raising Awareness of Prevent)**

This is a DVD facilitated product produced by the Office for Security and Counter Terrorism (OSCT). WRAP is designed for front line staff from partnership agencies and gives an overview of Prevent and how to recognise the initial signs of individuals vulnerable to radicalisation as well as those who radicalise.

Audience

All front line staff and managers.

Length of exercise

Approx. 1.15 hrs

- **Operations Graduate and Bachelor**

Operation Bachelor and Operation Graduate are two discussion exercises developed by the ACPO Prevent Delivery Unit to help the police engage with representatives from the Further and Higher Education Sector.

The exercises both use a short film to set the scene and initiate debate amongst participants. Scenario exercises have been developed for these products which include; extremist leaflets found on campus; raised student tensions as a result of hate crimes; extremist speakers visiting the university and a student who is suspected of viewing terrorist material online.

Audience

University or college students and staff.

Length of exercise

One hour

- **Pathways**

Pathways is an interactive workshop aimed at young people supported by a DVD. The DVD centres around two main characters from diverse backgrounds. The workshop allows young people the opportunity to explore stereo types, behaviours and grievances in a facilitated session.

Audience

Young People from 14 years and adults.

Length of exercise

One Hour

- **Your Mother**

This short film captures the stories of mothers whose children have committed acts of violent extremism, or those who intended to do so. These brave women discuss how their children's choices have destroyed their and their families' lives. Looking into their mother's faces, sons and daughters will realise that acts of terrorism will not lead to glory, but rather the devastation of those they love most. This film is intended as a tool for those in communities who are able to drive change in a tangible and effective way. We hope that it will prompt meaningful conversations at a grass roots level around terrorism, radicalisation, and the importance of women in preventing it.

Audience

Young People 14 years plus, adults and staff.

Length of Exercise

15 minutes

- **Fast (Dvd)**

This short film produced by 'families against stress and trauma' features three people talking openly about how their families were torn apart when young people travel to Syria and Iraq. They each speak of the pain and anguish they felt when their loved one left the UK. It's hard for practitioners to convey the heartbreak, which is why we let them speak for themselves.

Families make a difference because they have the power to reach out and stop this. All families should feel empowered to reach out if they are worried about a loved one who might be thinking of travelling to the region.

Audience

Young People, Staff, Professionals of all ages.

Length of exercise

30 minute

- **Conviction**

This is a 30 minute thought provoking DVD produced by Southwest Counter Terrorism Unit.

Conviction is designed for front line staff from partnership agencies and gives an overview of a real life case study based on the convicted terrorist Andrew (Isa) Ibrahim.

Audience

Social services; the Health sector; the Education sector; Probation Service; Employment Service; Housing Sector and Channel representatives.

Length of exercise

Two hours including supported lesson plans.

- **ACT NOW**

This is a table-top exercise centred on a hypothetical counter terrorism scenario which stimulates debate around the sensitive subject of terrorism. Decisions taken by the participants will shape the way the incident is investigated. ACT NOW gives an insight into how agencies and communities can work together to defeat terrorism. There are a number of versions of ACT NOW that include a scenario that is based on an extreme right wing incident and one which focuses on a scenario that is based on a college campus.

Audience

All communities aged 14 years and older

Length of exercise

Approximately two - three hours

- **Diaries of a Badman (DOABM)**

DOABM is an interactive workshop aimed at young people showing an example of how an individual maybe drawn towards extremism and how Humza makes ways to attempt to steer his cousin away from the dangers of Radicalisation. The film uses Humour to tackle these serious and key messages for young people to relate to.

Audience

Young people from 10 years plus.

Length of exercise

1 hour

- **E-safety / Online Awareness and the Law**

This is a DVD driven input using real life stories. The product explores current threats faced on the internet and explores underlying vulnerability and risks. This product features lesson plan around online cyber-bullying, sexual exploitation, fraud and brings in extremism and gives signposting advice.

Audience

Young people (key stage 3 and above). It can also be used by education staff and staff within social services.

Length of exercise

One hour lesson.

The South West Police can also provide literature, supplied by the Association of Chief Police Officers and the South West Counter Terrorism Unit, aimed at raising awareness and supporting the delivery of Prevent. Please contact your local Prevent team if your institute would be interested in receiving this material.

Find out more

The following resources are available to find out more about the Prevent strategy:

- **The Prevent strategy:**
www.gov.uk/government/policies/protecting-the-uk-against-terrorism/supporting-pages/prevent
www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/97976/prevent-strategy-review.pdf
- **The Channel programme:**
www.gov.uk/government/publications/channel-guidance

Police contacts

To report any concerns:

- Anti Terrorist Hotline: 0800 789 321
www.gov.uk/report-suspicious-activity-to-mi5
www.gov.uk/report-terrorism
- Crime stoppers: 0800 555 111
- (South West) Police 101

Prevent coordinator

- **Devon and Cornwall**
DI Samantha Norman

Prevent engagement contact for regions:

- **Devon and Cornwall**
prevent@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

The South West Counter Terrorism Unit has a team of Prevent officers covering each policing division. Their role is to work closely with partner agencies and communities to raise awareness of Prevent and embed the strategy across the county. This includes working with schools to deliver training and support intervention activity. To contact your local Prevent Officer please call the Police on 101.

Educational Institution Prevent Assessment

Everyone who comes into contact with children and their families has a role to play in safeguarding children. School and college staff are particularly important as they are in a position to identify concerns early and provide help for children, to prevent concerns from escalating. Schools and colleges and their staff form part of the wider safeguarding system for children. This system is described in statutory guidance *Working Together to Safeguard Children (March 2013)* and *Keeping Children Safe in Education (April 2014)*. Schools and colleges should work with social care, the police, health services and other services to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm. Radicalisation is listed as a specific safeguarding issue within this latest statutory guidance. Radicalisation is addressed within the Government Prevent Strategy.

The Prevent Strategy has three main objectives:

- Respond to the **ideological challenge** of terrorism & 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 which we need to address.

This assessment tool is to act as a health check for the Senior Leadership Team within an educational establishment to assess (with assistance from SWCTIU Prevent if required) if Prevent has been adopted into their institution's mainstream processes and if their institution requires any advice and support from their local Prevent Team to reduce their vulnerability.

Educational Institution Prevent Assessment				
Objective: Adoption of Prevent into Mainstream Processes				
No		Owner	Evidence	RAG status
1	Does the Institution have a nominated Prevent Lead?			
2	Is Prevent included within the Institution's Safeguarding Policy?			
3	Is Prevent included the within the Institution's Safer Recruitment Policy?			
4	Is Prevent an agenda item of relevant meetings / planning processes?			
5	Is there a clear referral route for vulnerable individuals to receive support?			
6	Is Prevent included within Information sharing protocols / MOU?			
7	Does the institution regularly assess Prevent Training needs to raise their awareness of Prevent issues with staff?			
8	Does the institution regularly assess Prevent Training needs to raise their awareness of Prevent issues with the Governing body?			
9	Is Prevent included when children are taught about safeguarding as part of a broad & balanced curriculum (e.g. through PSHE)?			
10	Are staff members aware of Prevent issues and the referrals process into the Channel?			
11	Does the Institution have engagement with wider Prevent work through their local Prevent Partnership?			
12	Is the Institution included in an agreed Prevent Partnership Communication Policy?			
13	Does the Institution have annual policy and training review process in place?			

