

# Prevent Policy



**September 2023**

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<b>Responsible Manager</b>	<b>Tom Mitchell</b>
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<b>Signed</b>	<b>Joyce McCarty</b>
<b>Policy Review Date</b>	<b>September 2024</b>

## **INTRODUCTION**

Moorbridge PRU is fully aware of its responsibility under the Prevent Duty 2015

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/439598/prev-ent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/439598/prev-ent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf)

and recognises that its responsibilities to prevent and protect children from extremism, fits within its duty of child protection and safeguarding.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/447595/KCSIE\\_July\\_2015.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/447595/KCSIE_July_2015.pdf)

Moorbridge PRU is committed to providing a secure environment for students and all staff recognise that safeguarding and creating a safeguarding culture is the responsibility of everyone who works here.

## **DEFINITION**

Extremism can be defined as “holding of extreme opinions: the holding of extreme political or religious views or the taking of extreme actions on the basis of those views”.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/263181/ETF\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/263181/ETF_FINAL.pdf)

## **STRATEGIES FOR PREVENTING EXTREMISM**

Through the Moorbridge PRU Curriculum, Enrichment Programme and Social and Emotional Developments times within the school the school promotes community cohesion

<http://www.communitycohesionncc.org.uk/docs/280.pdf>

as well as British Values.

According to Ofsted, 'fundamental British values' are:

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty and mutual respect
- tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

*School Inspection Handbook from September 2015*

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/458866/School\\_inspection\\_handbook\\_section\\_5\\_from\\_September\\_2015.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/458866/School_inspection_handbook_section_5_from_September_2015.pdf)

Promoting fundamental British Values as part of SMSC in schools Departmental Advice 2014

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/380595/SMSC\\_Guidance\\_Maintained\\_Schools.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/380595/SMSC_Guidance_Maintained_Schools.pdf)

The Office for Security & Counter Terrorism works to counter the threat from terrorism and their work is detailed in the counter terrorism strategy CONTEST.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/97995/strategy-contest.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/97995/strategy-contest.pdf)

This strategy is based on four areas of work:

- **Pursue**

To stop terrorist attacks

- **Prevent**

To stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism

- **Protect**

To strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack

- **Prepare**

To mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack

Promoting fundamental British Values as part of SMSC in schools Departmental Advice 2014

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/380595/SMSC\\_Guidance\\_Maintained\\_Schools.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/380595/SMSC_Guidance_Maintained_Schools.pdf)

Whilst the first three strands are clearly the remit of the government and security services, the fourth one is one to which schools and those who work with young people in a wider setting such as Youth workers or Social Services can contribute. Moorbridge PRU acknowledges this, supports the strategy and strives to take an active part of the 'Prevent' section of the strategy both at whole school and an individual level.

Prevent is a strategy that works to prevent the growth of issues that create a climate which facilitates radicalisation to occur, by creating a climate of mutual trust in which young people grow and develop. This climate works against creating circumstances in which young people feel isolated and become vulnerable to exploitation by those who wish to further a radical agenda. The creation of a school that is a secure and safe place based on appreciation and respect for all, has always been a stated aim of Reach and continues to be so in the school's clear statement of Equality and related policies and procedures.

Extremism in all its forms has no place at Moorbridge PRU, as exposure to both extremist materials and influences is detrimental to the development of young people. Extremists of all kinds aim to develop destructive relationships between different communities by promoting division, fear and mistrust of others based on ignorance or prejudice. Education is a powerful weapon against this as it equips young people with the knowledge, skills and sound judgement to challenge and debate these issues in a secure environment.

At Moorbridge PRU the Prevent strategy is furthered by:

- Raising awareness of the issue of radicalisation with staff so that those who work with young people at Moorbridge PRU appreciate that they are a front line strategy, and act accordingly. This is done through staff training, which is delivered and revisited at appropriate times through the year as opportunities arise. Moorbridge PRU staff appreciate how positive relationships created within school can remedy the factors that create the environment for dangers of radicalisation.
- Raising student awareness through the curriculum, where a clear understanding of history/religion/tradition promotes an appropriate understanding of the origins of movements such as Nazism and promoting an understanding of Islam and other world religions based on peaceful messages and intent. The informal curriculum is there to encourage students to want to be part of an inclusive society, and students are encouraged through learning to strengthen their sense of belonging. Subjects will, when applicable, foster an understanding of what terrorism is and how it occurs.

- Creating an inclusive school, which appreciates the importance of SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and cultural) and BV (British Values) and delivers them through a shared curriculum for all, encouraging full participation in a broad and balanced curriculum, including the informal curriculum, which celebrates the diversity of the school community and aims to make students feel valued and included.

At Moorbridge PRU we are aware that young people can be exposed to extremist influences or prejudiced views from an early age which emanate from a variety of sources and media, including via the internet, and at times learners may themselves reflect or display views that may be discriminatory, prejudiced or extremist, including using derogatory language. Any prejudice, discrimination or extremist views, including derogatory language, displayed by learners or staff will always be challenged and dealt with in line with the relevant policies on student behaviour or staff conduct.

We will strive to eradicate the myths and assumptions that can lead to some young people becoming alienated and disempowered, especially where the narrow approaches young people may experience elsewhere may make it harder for them to challenge or question these radical influences. We will strive to ensure that our support and approaches will help our students build resilience to extremism and give them a positive sense of identity through the development of critical thinking skills.

We will provide staff training to ensure that all of our staff are equipped to recognise extremism and are skilled and confident enough to challenge it.

Our goal is to build mutual respect and understanding and to promote the use of dialogue not violence as a form of conflict resolution.

We will also work with local partners, families and communities in our effort to ensure Reach students understand and embrace our local context and values in challenging extremist views, and to assist in the broadening of young people's experiences and horizons.

We will help support learners who may be vulnerable to such influences as part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities and where we believe a student is being directly affected by extremist materials or influences we will refer the student through the reporting process for help and support.

## **AIMS**

At Moorbridge PRU we follow the principles outlined in the DCSF toolkit

<http://www.communitycohesioncc.org.uk/docs/280.pdf>

which seeks to:

- **Raise awareness** within school of the threat from violent extremist groups and the risks for young people.
- Provide **information** about what can cause violent extremism, about preventative actions taking place locally and nationally and where we can get additional information and advice.
- Help schools understand the **positive contribution** they can make to empower young people to create communities that are more resilient to extremism and **protecting the wellbeing** of particular pupils or groups who may be vulnerable to being drawn into violent extremist activity.

- Provide advice on **managing risks** and responding to incidents locally, nationally or internationally that might have an impact on the school community.

Moorbridge PRU will use these principles to guide our work in all areas including building on our work in:

- Promoting good outcomes for all pupils including their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- Promoting pupil happiness, wellbeing, sense of security, equalities and community cohesion  
Building the resilience of the school, working with partners, to prevent pupils becoming the victims or causes of harm
- Working with other agencies including the education child protection service, social care, the police, parents, and community and religious leaders to build community links and enhance positive networks

### **The Role of the Curriculum**

Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. Students 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, health, Education), SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) and FBV (Fundamental British Values) provision is embedded across the curriculum and through the wider school life, and it underpins in the inclusive ethos of the school.

It is recognised that students with low aspirations are more vulnerable to radicalisation and therefore we strive to equip our students with confidence, self-belief, resilience, respect and tolerance as well as setting high standards and expectation for themselves.

Students are regularly taught 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

### **Parent Communication**

The Policy will be displayed on the Reach Website

Parents will be informed about the Prevent Policy and discuss its content at Student induction.

If there are concerns regarding a pupils behaviour around the prevent agenda it will be discussed with parents.

If a referral is made under Prevent, parents/carers will be informed of the referral and the reason for it.

If a pupil is going to be interviewed by a Prevent (or Police) Officer an appropriate member of staff will be present to support the young person.

### **Staff Training**

Through INSET opportunities in school we will ensure that our governors and staff are full aware of the threats, risk and vulnerabilities that are linked to radicalisation and how this might be identified early on.

### **Definitions for clarification**

**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 holding of extreme political or religious views which may deny rights to any group or individual. It can be expressed in vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and respectful tolerance of different faiths or beliefs.

## **TRAINING**

Tom Mitchell is the designated personnel for PREVENT and undertook training in 2021

School staff have been briefed on the PREVENT Duty as have the Governing Body and a copy of this policy is displayed on the school website.

## **RISK ASSESSING**

*Moorbridge PRU is committed to safeguarding, is compliant with its duties including prevent, positively promotes the well-being of all its pupils and expects all staff and volunteers to share in this commitment.*

*Moorbridge PRU is a happy school with an open door policy and excellent methods of communication. The School is proud of school community and has good relations with parents and the community. The school risk assesses for a number of purposes including staff recruitment and would be as vigilant as possible to any pupil at risk to grooming or extremism.*

## **USE OF ONLINE TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL MEDIA**

*Moorbridge PRU is aware of the risk of use of social media for online radicalisation*

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/440450/How\\_social\\_media\\_is\\_used\\_to\\_encourage\\_travel\\_to\\_Syria\\_and\\_Iraq.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/440450/How_social_media_is_used_to_encourage_travel_to_Syria_and_Iraq.pdf)

*Moorbridge PRU promotes a positive and protective school ethos. The Deputy Headteacher's are designated personnel for Child Protection – Tom Mitchell and Safeguarding. All staff receive Child Protection training.*

The school has Acceptable Use of IT Policy and during the school day restricts access to external sites that may be unsafe or unsuitable, this is controlled the North Tyneside Web Browser. Pupils constantly receive an update on how to keep themselves safe on line. Pupils are reminded of the importance of speaking to a trusted adult either in school or at home if they feel vulnerable or unsafe. This would include any concerns they have about images, messages or contacts online.

## **PARTNERSHIPS**

*Moorbridge PRU recognises that any attempt to counter extremism and prevent radicalisation can not be achieved by one organization alone but relies on the sharing of information and productive partnership working. In upholding the Prevent duty Moorbridge PRU works with a number of partners, including*

- Childrens Services
- The Police and PCSOs
- The Locality Team
- Family Partners
- Community and religious leaders
- Parents and the wider community
- Other Educational Organizations



## **BUILDING RESILIENCE**

“Schools can build pupils’ resilience to radicalisation by providing a safe environment for debating controversial issues and helping them to understand how they can influence and participate in decision-making.”

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/439598/prev-ent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/439598/prev-ent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf)

*Moorbridge PRU* develops pupils’ resilience in a number of different ways across the curriculum including through the PHSE programme of study, assemblies, educational visits, drama workshops, debating, philosophy, and citizenship activities such as focus groups .

## **RAISING A CONCERN**

If a member of the school community, a child, a member of staff or a member of the school community raises a concern that relates to the Prevent Duty e.g. a child at risk of radicalisation, or exhibiting extremist the school will take this matter seriously and will follow Child Protection procedures.

[http://november.northtyneside.gov.uk:7777/portal/page?\\_pageid=0,6685,0\\_5573969:0\\_5573981&\\_dad=portal30&\\_schema=PORTAL30](http://november.northtyneside.gov.uk:7777/portal/page?_pageid=0,6685,0_5573969:0_5573981&_dad=portal30&_schema=PORTAL30)

1. Speak to the Designated Personnel for Child Protection and Safeguarding
2. Take advice as to whether a Referral Form needs to be completed.
3. Send to Front Door
4. Subject to Front Door assessment Inter-agency procedures may follow including

[http://november.northtyneside.gov.uk:7777/portal/page?\\_pageid=0,6685,0\\_5573969:0\\_5573981&\\_dad=portal30&\\_schema=PORTAL30](http://november.northtyneside.gov.uk:7777/portal/page?_pageid=0,6685,0_5573969:0_5573981&_dad=portal30&_schema=PORTAL30)

*Moorbridge PRU* will create and log a Prevent concern in the normal manner to report a Safeguarding concern.

[http://november.northtyneside.gov.uk:7777/portal/page?\\_pageid=0,6685,0\\_5573969:0\\_5573981&\\_dad=portal30&\\_schema=PORTAL30](http://november.northtyneside.gov.uk:7777/portal/page?_pageid=0,6685,0_5573969:0_5573981&_dad=portal30&_schema=PORTAL30)

5. Escalation to Channel

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/425189/Channel\\_Duty\\_Guidance\\_April\\_2015.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/425189/Channel_Duty_Guidance_April_2015.pdf)

*Whilst Moorbridge PRU is fully compliant in the Prevent duty, and recognises the important role it has to play in this respect, the school will be thoughtful and proportionate in its response to ensure that no individual or group feels needlessly disenfranchised or unfairly discriminated. Paramount to Moorbridge PRU vision is to promote a positive, warm, inclusive, compassionate, optimistic and harmonious school culture, where every child and adult feels safe, happy, valued as a unique and precious individual, and realises personal achievement and experiences rewarding success.*