

 Rainbows End Pre-School

 Timebridge Community Centre

 Mobbsbury Way

 Stevenage

 Herts

 SG2 0HT

**The Prevent Duty**

**Policy statement**

The Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales (HMG 2015) places duties on registered providers around keeping children safe and promoting welfare.

The Prevent duty requires providers to ‘have due regard to preventing people from being drawn into terrorism.’ This is known as the Prevent Duty, and providers are subject to this duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

**Procedures**

Protecting children from risk of radicalisation through wider safeguarding duties already exists and this policy supports the safeguarding children policy. This is similar to protecting children from any other harm whether these come from their family or are the product of outside influences.

The Prevent Duty is summarised into 4 main sections:

* Risk Assessment.
* Working in partnership.
* Staff Training.
* IT Policies.

**Risk Assessment**

The guidance makes it clear that providers are expected to assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorism including support for extremist ideas, this should include online radicalisation. There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to a terrorist ideology. As with managing other safeguarding risks, staff should be alert to changes in behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Children at risk of radicalisation may display different signs or seek to hide their views, Staff should use their professional judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately. Even very young children may be vulnerable to radicalisation by others, whether in the family or outside and display concerning behaviour. The Prevent Duty does not require childcare providers to carry out unnecessary intrusion into family life but as with any other safeguarding risk, they must take action when they observe behaviour of concern. Staff should complete WRAP training.

**Working in Partnership**

The Prevent Duty builds on existing local partnership arrangements. Local Safeguarding Children’s Boards (LSCB’s) are responsible for coordinating what is done by local agencies for the purpose of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area. Effective management with parents and families is also important as they are in a key position to spot signs of radicalisation. It is also important to assist families and raise concerns and be able to point them to the right support mechanism.

**Staff Training**

Staff need to understand the importance of Prevent awareness training to equip them in how to identify children at risk of being drawn into terrorism and to challenge extremist ideas. Staff are expected to complete the WRAP training course. As a minimum, the Designated Safeguarding lead will undertake Prevent awareness training and is therefore able to provide advice and support to the other team members. This training is completed every two years.

**IT Policies**

As with every other online risk, staff need to be aware of the risk of any external or terrorist activity online. This is minimised at pre-school due to children not accessing the internet directly.

**Building Children’s Resilience to Radicalisation**

The fundamental British values are already embedded in the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum (2014) and are defined as:

* Democracy.
* The rule of law.
* Individual liberty and mutual respect.
* Tolerance of those with different faiths.

Further information can be found in the British Values Policy.

*To fulfil the Prevent Duty, providers must ensure that:*

* Staff are able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation.
* Staff members are aware that if they observe concerning behaviours or actions the designated safeguarding person Samatha Oddy or Elise Bull will be informed.

*Staff take action when they observe behaviours that are of concern:*

* If a member of staff has concerns about a child they must follow the safeguarding procedure, including discussing with the designated person for safeguarding, and where deemed necessary children’s services (0300 123 4043)
* Staff can also contact the local police or dial 101 (A non-emergency number) Discussions can be had in confidence to gain support and advice.
* Concerns can be raised with the Department for Education helpline (020 7340 7264). Concerns can also be raised by email to counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk. This number and email are not for emergencies.

This policy was adopted by Clair Rivers-Ward