



Sydenham and Lighthorne Heath Primary Schools

PREVENT Risk Assessment



What is the Prevent strategy?

Prevent is part of the Government's counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST. Its aim is to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism, including by safeguarding people who may be susceptible to radicalisation.

The Prevent duty applies to all forms of terrorism. Schools must consider the current national and local threat picture without stereotyping or making assumptions based on a pupil's faith, ethnicity, disability, SEND, family background or other protected characteristic.

How does the Prevent strategy apply to schools?

Under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, schools must have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. The Prevent duty guidance: England and Wales (2023), in force from 31 December 2023, sets out the expectations for education settings.

Prevent is part of safeguarding. In line with Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026, staff should be alert to concerns that a child may be susceptible to radicalisation, know how to report concerns, and understand the local Prevent referral pathway.

The Federation provides age-appropriate opportunities for pupils to develop critical thinking, digital literacy, respect for others and resilience to hateful or extremist narratives, while ensuring that discussions are balanced, safe and politically impartial.

For information about how the Federation promotes fundamental British values, please see the relevant curriculum, safeguarding, RSHE/PSHE, RE and Preventing Radicalisation documentation.

Key statutory and national guidance

This risk assessment should be read alongside the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015; Prevent duty guidance: England and Wales (2023); Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026; Channel duty guidance (updated October 2025); DfE Prevent risk-assessment guidance/templates; DfE filtering and monitoring standards; and statutory requirements on political impartiality in schools. It is reviewed at least annually and sooner if the national threat level, local risk picture, school context, technology, safeguarding intelligence or statutory guidance changes materially.

National Risks – risks of radicalisation generally

What national risks are we aware of that could impact our area, school setting, pupils or families

The UK national terrorism threat level is currently SEVERE (raised on 30 April 2026), meaning an attack is highly likely. Threat levels are set independently by the Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre and may change; the Federation will check the current level when this assessment is reviewed.

MI5 states that Islamist terrorism remains the primary terrorist threat to the UK and that Extreme Right-Wing Terrorism (ERWT) has been on a steadily rising trajectory. The current threat is complex and includes online and offline radicalisation, individuals and small groups, and attack planning across different ideologies.

The latest Home Office Prevent statistics (year ending September 2025, published August 2026) recorded 10,293 referrals, the highest annual number in the series. Education was the largest referring sector (34%). ERWT was the largest single ideology among adopted Channel cases; a large proportion of referrals were recorded as having no identified ideology, including concerns linked to fascination with extreme violence or mass-casualty attacks. Children aged 11-15 remained the largest referral age group.

National data should inform vigilance, not profiling. A pupil's SEND, neurodiversity, mental health, religion, ethnicity or other characteristic does not in itself indicate susceptibility to radicalisation; concerns must be considered individually, contextually and through normal safeguarding processes.

Local Risks – risk of radicalisation in our area and institution

What specific local risks are we aware of that could impact our area, school setting, pupils or families?

Warwickshire Safeguarding describes Warwickshire as a relatively safe county but recognises that local communities are affected by national and international terrorist and extremist trends. The current published Warwickshire Prevent framework includes the Warwickshire Prevent Strategic Assessment and Prevent Action Plan 2024-26, owned by the multi-agency Prevent partnership reporting to the Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board.

The published Warwickshire risk picture has identified Extreme Right-Wing concerns as a significant local priority, alongside Islamist extremism. Local partnership priorities also emphasise online radicalisation and grooming, young people, links between hate and extremism, and emerging grievance-based narratives such as conspiracy theories, misogyny and incel-related material where these interact with extremist or violent ideologies.

For primary-aged pupils in Leamington Spa and Lighthorne Heath, online exposure through social media, video-sharing platforms, messaging, gaming and algorithmically promoted content is a relevant pathway to consider, including exposure that occurs outside school. Staff should also remain alert to hateful, racist, antisemitic, anti-Muslim or other dehumanising narratives that may normalise hostility or violence.

No publicly available source identified a separate Leamington Spa-specific ideological threat profile. The Federation will therefore avoid assumptions based on local demographics and will obtain current locality intelligence, where appropriate, from Warwickshire's Prevent Officer, Warwickshire Safeguarding/Community Safety partners and police Prevent colleagues. Any successor to the 2024-26 Warwickshire Action Plan or updated Strategic Assessment will be incorporated promptly.

Warwickshire Prevent Steering Group – 10 Priorities

The Prevent Steering Group have undertaken a self assessment of its compliance with the Prevent Duty and also the priorities for our activities for 2023/24. This was undertaken through use of the Home Office self evaluation toolkit and also through a workshop to look at risk and responses. The following ten points outline the Warwickshire Prevent Steering Group's priorities for the upcoming year.

1. Strong and Effective Partnership

The overall aim is to be a consistently high performing Prevent Partnership, confident in their collective compliance with the responsibilities of statutory bodies under the Prevent Duty. They will undertake a regular review of their collective assurance arrangements against national standards, as individual agencies, collectively and with the support of the Home Office Regional Prevent Advisor.

2. Supporting those susceptible to radicalisation

Ensuring that all partners take steps to promote the importance of making Prevent referrals for those who may be susceptible to radicalisation, allied with an effective, multi-agency safeguarding response delivered by the Warwickshire Channel Panel to help keep the people of Warwickshire safe and supported.

3. Raising awareness of Prevent

To provide timely, proportionate and relevant information across the partnership and communities on the risks of radicalisation, the responsibilities of statutory agencies and how to access support. This will be supported centrally by providing opportunities for training and provision of information and communications on Prevent, which individual agencies can access and supplement. The training will address the ideological drivers of hate that motivate violent extremist threat, along with information regarding signs and symbols.

4. Comprehensive and targeted action

The partnership recognises that an individual can become susceptible to radicalisation in any area, or from any background. The vulnerability is unique to that person. From time to time however, Warwickshire also experience indications of aggravated activism from extremist influences in localities. The partnership will ensure a balance between providing a comprehensive support across the County, with targeted action in those areas identified as needing specific action. This will include addressing thematic issues such as mental health which have been identified by the partnership.

5. Tackling Online Radicalisation

The growth of online extremist content seeking to radicalise individuals has been clearly documented and established. There are more Prevent referrals both nationally and locally which outline the role the internet plays in disseminating hate based material, drawing individuals into a virtual network of extremism and for some leading onwards to the adoption of violent extremist outlook and intent. This is an area for collective action.

6. Focus on Young People

National data confirms that more young people are linked to terrorism offences in the last 4 years. Channel referral information also confirms that young people are at great risk of radicalisation. The Prevent partnership will look to engage with more youth groups and services supporting young people to enable more widespread appreciation of the risks and in consequence the support to reduce those risks.

7. Alignment to Hate Crime

The partnership will work closely with the Hate Crime Partnership to align its actions so that the links between Hate & Extremism are identified, their work is co-ordinated and impact of work on engagement, training, communications are maximised.

8. Engagement and Communications

The partnership will seek out opportunities to engage with wider agencies and local communities in timely and proportionate ways. Information regarding the Prevent partnership and priorities will be publicly available.

9. Supporting Schools & Colleges

The education sector provides the largest source of referrals in Warwickshire and provides an essential and committed part in the Prevent programme. The partnership's aim is to provide more support and resources to education partners, including local communication resources, training and guidance.

10. Encompass emerging issues

The partnership aims to keep aware of changes in risk of established extremist concerns and also to be alert to emerging issues, for example, conspiracy theories, Incel, misogyny, which might interact with other violent extremist narratives and provide new ways in which people can be drawn to grievance, hate and violence.

Leadership and Partnership

Category	Risk What is the risk here?	Hazard What are the hazards?	Risk Management What has school put in place to ensure sufficient understanding and buy-in from leadership?	HML	Further Action Needed What does school need to further action to address the identified risks?	Lead Officer	Date for Completion	Support Available
Leadership	School does not place sufficient priority to Prevent and risk assessment/action plans (or does not have one) and therefore actions to mitigate risks	Leaders (including governors and trustees) within the organisation do not understand the requirements of the Prevent Statutory Duty or the risks faced by the organisation. The Duty is not managed or enabled	- EHT/DSL holds strategic responsibility for Prevent and safeguarding; governors provide oversight. - This Prevent risk assessment is reviewed at least annually and following any significant change in the national/local	L	Confirm governor/DSL Prevent refresher and review this assessment against any successor Warwickshire	EHT / DSL	Autumn 2026 and ongoing	Prevent duty guidance: England and Wales (2023) DfE Prevent risk-assessment guidance and schools template Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026 Warwickshire Safeguarding - Prevent in Warwickshire

	and meet the requirements of the Duty are not effective.	at a sufficiently senior level. • Leaders do not have understanding and ultimate ownership of their internal safeguarding processes, nor ensuring that all staff have sufficient understanding and that staff implement the duty effectively. • Leaders do not communicate and promote the importance of the duty. • Leaders do not drive an effective safeguarding culture across the institution. • Leaders do not provide a safe environment in which children can learn.	threat picture or school context. • Prevent is integrated into the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, Preventing Radicalisation Policy, Online Safety/Filtering and Monitoring arrangements, Staff Behaviour Code and curriculum planning. • Leaders ensure staff understand that Prevent is a safeguarding duty and that susceptibility to radicalisation must be considered without stereotyping. • Leaders maintain clear internal reporting and referral pathways and ensure concerns are recorded on CPOMS. • The Federation uses current national guidance and seeks local intelligence/advice from Warwickshire Prevent and safeguarding partners. • Governors receive assurance on Prevent training, risk assessment, referrals (appropriately anonymised), filtering/monitoring and curriculum resilience.		Prevent Strategic Assessment/Action Plan when published.			Home Office Prevent e-learning / Prevent referrals / Channel training
Working in Partnership	School is not fully appraised of national and local risks, does not work with partners to	• The organisation does not establish effective partnerships with organisations such as the Local Authority and Police Prevent Team.	• Federation maintains links with Warwickshire Safeguarding Children Partnership, Warwickshire Prevent/Community Safety, police Prevent colleagues,	L	Maintain contact with Warwickshire Prevent Officer and check for	EHT / DSL	Termly / as updates issued	Warwickshire Safeguarding - Prevent in Warwickshire Current Warwickshire Prevent referral pathway and national referral form Channel duty guidance (updated October 2025) Educate Against Hate updates and resources

	safeguard children vulnerable to radicalisation, and does not have access to good practice advice, guidance or supportive peer networks.		DSL/headteacher networks and other relevant safeguarding partners. • DSLs know how to seek advice and make a Prevent referral using the current national referral form and agreed Warwickshire pathway. • Leaders use local briefings, strategic assessments and training to keep the school risk picture current. • Where a concern does not meet the Prevent threshold, normal safeguarding/early-help pathways remain available; Prevent is not a substitute for other safeguarding action. • Channel in England is a voluntary, multi-agency safeguarding programme for people assessed as susceptible to radicalisation; schools cooperate with requests for proportionate information where lawful and necessary.		updated local Strategic Assessment/Action Plan during 2026/27.			
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Capabilities								
Category	Risk What is the risk here?	Hazard What are the hazards?	Risk Management What has school put in place to ensure sufficient understanding and buy-in from leadership?	HML	Further Action Needed What does school need to further action to address the identified risks?	Lead Officer	Date for Completion	Support Available
Staff Training	Staff do not recognise signs of abuse or vulnerabilities and the risk of harm is not reported properly and promptly by staff.	- Frontline staff including governors, do not understand what radicalisation means and why people may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. - Staff do not access Prevent training or refresher training.	- Prevent expectations are included in safeguarding induction for new staff and volunteers where relevant. - Staff receive Prevent awareness/refresher learning proportionate to their role and the current local/national risk picture, including Notice, Check, Share and online radicalisation. - Training makes clear that there is no single profile of a person susceptible to radicalisation and that protected characteristics, SEND, neurodiversity or mental ill-health must not be treated as indicators in isolation. - DSLs maintain enhanced knowledge of referral thresholds, local processes and Channel. - Governors receive sufficient training to exercise strategic oversight of the duty. - Training is supported by safeguarding updates during the year when risks, terminology or guidance	M	Refresh whole-staff and governor Prevent training in light of the SEVERE national threat level, 2026 statistics and current Warwickshire risk picture; record completion.	EHT / DSL	By end of Autumn 2026	Home Office Prevent e-learning Warwickshire Prevent training and updates DfE safeguarding learners vulnerable to radicalisation guidance Educate Against Hate

			change. Records of training are retained and leaders evaluate whether staff know how to identify, record and escalate concerns.					
Information Sharing	Staff do not share information with relevant partners in a timely manner.	- Staff do not feel confident sharing information with partners regarding radicalisation concerns. - Staff are not aware of the Prevent referral process.	- Staff report concerns immediately to the DSL/deputy DSL and record them on CPOMS in line with safeguarding procedures. - Staff use Notice, Check, Share: notice a concern, check it in context with the DSL, and share proportionately with the appropriate agency where required. - DSLs use the current national Prevent referral form and agreed Warwickshire process, seeking local Prevent/police advice where necessary. - Information is shared lawfully, proportionately, accurately and on a need-to-know basis. Data protection law is not a barrier to necessary safeguarding information sharing. - Parents/carers will normally be involved where appropriate unless doing so would increase risk or prejudice a safeguarding/police response. - Prevent referrals and outcomes are recorded securely and followed	L	Ensure current national referral form and Warwickshire contact/referral details are accessible to all DSLs.	DSL	Autumn 2026; then check annually	Making a referral to Prevent (GOV.UK, updated August 2026) Warwickshire Prevent referral pathway DfE Information Sharing Advice for safeguarding practitioners KCSIE 2026

			up/escalated where necessary.					
Reducing Permissive Environments								
Category	Risk What is the risk here?	Hazard What are the hazards?	Risk Management What has school put in place to ensure sufficient understanding and buy-in from leadership?	HML	Further Action Needed What does school need to further action to address the identified risks?	Lead Officer	Date for Completion	Support Available
Building children's resilience to radicalisation	Children and young people are exposed to intolerant or hateful narratives and lack understanding of the risks posed by terrorist organisations and extremist ideologies that underpin them.	- School does not provide a safe space in which children and young people can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and the extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology, and learn how to challenge these ideas. - The setting does not teach a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes spiritual, moral, cultural mental and physical development of students and fundamental British values and community cohesion.	- The curriculum develops knowledge, critical thinking, media/digital literacy, respectful disagreement and pupils' ability to recognise manipulation, misinformation, hate and harmful influence. - PSHE/RSHE, RE, computing/online safety, English, assemblies and wider curriculum opportunities provide age-appropriate discussion of rights, responsibilities, diversity, prejudice, respectful relationships and fundamental British values. - Staff create safe, inclusive opportunities for pupils to ask questions and discuss difficult issues without promoting partisan political views. - The Federation's Rights Respecting, School of	L	Continue to review curriculum coverage against current online/extremism risks and pupil voice; ensure age-appropriate learning about misinformation, hateful narratives and safe help-seeking.	EHT / PSHE / Computing / RE leads	2026/27 monitoring cycle	Educate Against Hate classroom resources DfE guidance on political impartiality in schools KCSIE 2026 Warwickshire Prevent training/resources

			Sanctuary, relational and inclusive ethos strengthens belonging and mutual respect. • Staff challenge racist, antisemitic, anti-Muslim, misogynistic and other prejudicial language or dehumanising narratives and record/escalate safeguarding concerns where necessary. • Pupils are taught where and how to seek help, including from trusted adults. • Teaching is adapted so pupils with SEND, EAL and communication needs can access safeguarding learning through visuals, reduced language, Makaton or other appropriate supports.					
IT policies	Ineffective IT policies increases the likelihood of students and staff being drawn into extremist material and narratives online. Inappropriate internet use by students is not identified or followed up.	• Pupils can access terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet at the institution. • Students may distribute extremist material using the institution IT system. • Unclear linkages between IT policy and the Prevent duty. No consideration of filtering as a means of	• Appropriate filtering and monitoring systems are in place and are reviewed in line with DfE filtering and monitoring standards. • The DSL has lead responsibility for online safety and works with relevant technical staff/providers; governors receive assurance on effectiveness. • Filtering should block access to known	L	Document the annual filtering and monitoring review and ensure Prevent-related filtering/monitoring risks are considered explicitly.	DSL / EHT / technical lead	At least annually and after significant change	DfE filtering and monitoring standards for schools and colleges KCSIE 2026 online safety requirements UK Safer Internet Centre Educate Against Hate - online radicalisation resources

		restricting access to harmful content.	terrorist/extremist material while monitoring supports identification of concerning searches or behaviour, with proportionate follow-up through safeguarding procedures. • Staff know how to report concerns, including where inappropriate content is accessed, a filtering alert is generated or pupils attempt to bypass controls. • Relevant concerns are recorded on CPOMS and considered in the wider safeguarding context. • Pupils are taught age-appropriate online safety, critical evaluation of content, risks of grooming/manipulation and how to seek help. • School recognises that much online exposure may occur away from the school network, including through gaming, messaging, social media and video-sharing platforms; parent/carers information is used where appropriate.					
Visitors	External speakers or visitors being given a platform to radicalise children and	• Leaders do not provide a safe space for children to learn.	• Visitor, contractor and lettings procedures include appropriate identity checks,	L	Continue to apply due diligence consistently to external	EHT / DSL / EVC or event lead	Ongoing	DfE political impartiality guidance Prevent duty guidance 2023 - reducing permissive environments

	young people or spread hateful or divisive narratives.	The setting does not conduct any due diligence checks on visitors or the materials they may use.	supervision and due diligence proportionate to the activity and access to pupils. - External speakers, organisations and teaching materials are checked where appropriate to ensure suitability and safeguarding compliance. - The Federation complies with duties on political impartiality and balanced presentation of opposing views where political issues are taught. - School premises and resources must not be used to promote or facilitate terrorism or extremist ideology linked to terrorism. - Where concerns arise about an individual, organisation, resource or proposed event, leaders seek advice from Warwickshire Prevent/safeguarding partners before proceeding.		speakers, organisations, lettings and curriculum visitors; retain records where a higher-risk judgement is required.			Warwickshire Prevent advice
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This RA was reviewed and updated: September 2026

And will be reviewed: September 2027 (or sooner if risk/guidance changes)

Executive Head Teacher: Juliette Westwood

Chair of Governors: Richard Butler

Historic training record: whole-staff and governor Prevent training was led by Warwickshire Prevent Officer Geoff Thomas on 10th December 2025. The 2026/27 action plan requires refreshed staff and governor learning, reflecting the current SEVERE national threat level, updated national referral data and current Warwickshire priorities. Training records/certificates should be retained separately from this risk assessment.

Appendices

Appendix 1

Prevent training materials certification and feedback



Prevent Duty
Certificate Decembe



ITEM 1
WARWICKSHIRE PRE



posters.pptx



Prevent Channel
Poster 1 A4.pdf



PREVENT CPD
Feedback December



Prevent Duty
School 2025 Summa



Prevent Educational
Resources.pptx

Archived 2023 Prevent training materials are retained below for reference.



PREVENT PPT March
2023.pdf



PREVENT PPT March
2023.pptx