



SAFEGUARDING-THE PREVENT POLICY

LENT 2021

St Helen and St Katharine places safeguarding at the heart of all that we do and recognises the wide-ranging aspects of the term.

There are three policies that comprise the Safeguarding Group - Child Protection, Prevent and Online Safety. This policy focuses on safeguarding in terms of 'Prevent'.

The Safeguarding Policy Group has alongside it a range of other important policies that work together to safeguard the individuals at this school.

This policy is part of the group of policies that consider safeguarding issues. Other policies Whistleblowing, Anti-bullying, ICT Acceptable use, Equal Opportunities, Safer Recruiting, Sex and relationships, Health and Safety, Pastoral Care, Behaviour, Work Experience, the Staff Code of Conduct and the Child Protection policy and the E-safety policy, Contractors Policy.

In writing this policy we have referred to: Revised Prevent Duty Guidance: for England and Wales (April 2019). The Prevent duty: Departmental advice for schools and childminders (June 2015); The use of social media for on-line radicalisation (July 2015); Keeping Children Safe in Education (September 2018) Counter-terrorism strategy (CONTEST) (2018) guidance on promoting British Values (2014) Prevent Duty Toolkit for Local Authorities and Partner Agencies (2018)

Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation

St Helen and St Katharine recognises the responsibilities held by all schools under the 'Prevent' strategy and Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015, which ensure the safeguarding of our students against the threat of extremism and radicalisation.

The Prevent Strategy identifies that young people are more likely to be vulnerable to violent extremist or terrorist narratives, including non-violent extremism which can create an atmosphere conducive to terrorism and can popularise views which terrorists exploit. The Government's Prevent Strategy defines extremism as 'Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs'.

We believe that St Helen and St Katharine should be a safe place where 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 such ideas.

In order to fulfil our Prevent Duty the school will:

- Carry out an annual self-assessment (see Appendix 1)
- Train staff in understanding extremism and identifying those at risk of radicalisation
- Include work on critical thinking related to online content and resilience to online extremism in the PD and General Studies curricula. Students will be taught to understand the risks

posed by adults or young people who use the internet and social media to bully, groom, abuse or radicalize young people

- Actively promote Fundamental British Values, including mutual respect, tolerance and democratic participation.
- Ensure that outside speakers are assessed for suitability of message/content-see Appendix 2 -Protocol on Visiting Speakers
- Ensure that an appropriate level of internet content filtering is in place on the school IT system and that students and staff are monitored by an external provider for extremist searches/ activity online.
- Ensure staff are aware of the procedure to follow if they have concerns about a student, parent or member of staff
- Conduct due diligence checks on groups/ individuals seeking to hire or use school premises (see Facilities Hire Checklist)
- Conduct due diligence checks on contractors working on the school site during the term. (see Contractors' Policy)
- Respond to information from the Education Safeguarding Advisory Team or the police that outlines the latest trends and figures for Oxfordshire.

Procedures in the event of a concern about radicalisation

If people are at immediate risk of harm- phone 999

The procedures within school are the same as for a child protection issue. That is, that the Designated Safeguarding Lead (Director of Students, Liz Bedford) is informed. For full details please see the Child Protection Policy. Any member of staff with a concern about a student should report this to the DSL, or in her absence any of the DDSLs (Heads of Section Y7-U6). If the concern is about a member of staff they should report it to the Headmistress.

In Oxfordshire, there is one pathway so the decision to refer to Channel or Children's Social care is made through that framework.

- The DSL/DDSL will complete a Prevent Referral Form (found in the Heads of Section group on sharepoint) and email it to preventreferrals@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk
- This will then follow the Prevent National Referral Form pathway with automatic referral to the MASH, Prevent Gateway and Thames Valley Police FIMU

Other contacts for advice or concerns about extremism or radicalisation:

1. PreventGateway@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk
2. Thames Valley Prevent team 01865555618
3. Anti-terrorist hotline: 0800 789 321, Crime stoppers: 0800 555 111
4. Relevant police force non emergency number: 101
5. www.gov.uk/report-suspicious-activity-to-mi5
6. There is also a dedicated telephone helpline and email for non-emergency advice for staff and governors 020 7340 7264 counter.extremism@education.gov.uk Mon-Fri 9am-6pm.

Procedures around online extremist or terrorist content

The school uses filters and the forensic monitoring service esafe to filter and screen activity on the School network (see Online Safety policy p3 for further detail). Should any member of staff encounter or be aware of the following content, they should report it to

The school uses filters and the forensic monitoring service esafe to filter and screen activity on the School network (see Online Safety policy p3 for further detail). Should any member of staff encounter or be aware of the following content, they should report it to www.gov.uk/report-terrorism or report it to the DSL who will, in turn report it to the website above.

Reportable content includes:

- articles, images, speeches or videos that promote terrorism or encourage violence
- content encouraging people to commit acts of terrorism
- websites made by terrorist or extremist organisations
- videos of terrorist attacks.

2021-Covid

All staff have been advised through the mid-year safeguarding update of the increased risk of students to online extremism and radicalisation and reminded of key contact information. Students have continued to be taught PD and General Studies which includes online safety and Prevent as part of this.

Governor scrutiny

The Governor responsible for Safeguarding scrutinises this policy to ensure that it has the relevant content. The DSL meets with the Governor at least once a term to update them on any issues. The Governor carries out regular checks of staff to ensure practice is followed. There are termly updates to all Governors from the DSL both through written reports and the Risk and Compliance committee.

Policy last reviewed.....Lent 2021
Next review due Lent 2022
Person responsible for review Director of Students, annually by Governing Body
Audience..... Staff/Parents/Governors

Appendix one-Prevent Self-Assessment 2020-21

Prevent Self Assessment					
Objective: Adoption of Prevent into Mainstream Processes					
Governance					
No		Owner	Done?	Evidence	RAG status
1.1	Does the Institution have a nominated Staff (and Governor) Prevent Lead?	Head	Yes	DSL - Elizabeth Bedford Safeguarding Governor - Jacquelyn Pain	
Risk Assessment					
No		Owner	Done?	Evidence	RAG status
2.1	Do the Senior Leadership team and Governors have an understanding, shared with partners, of the potential risk in the local area to assess the risk of pupils being drawn onto terrorism including support for the extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology?	DSL	Yes	Data given out by OSCB.	
2.2	Is Prevent included within the Institution's Safeguarding Policy?	DSL	Yes	Prevent Policy	
2.3	Is Prevent included within the Institution's Safer Recruitment Policy?	HR	Yes	Safer recruitment Policy	
2.4	Is Prevent included within the Institution's venue hiring policy? Are due diligence checks conducted on groups/individuals seeking to hire/use school premises?	Bursar	Yes	Facilities Hire Checklist	
2.5	Is Prevent included within the Institution's Visitors Policy? Are Due diligence checks conducted on visitors to the school? Does the policy set out clear protocols for ensuring that any visiting speakers - whether invited by staff or by pupils themselves - are suitable and appropriately supervised within school?		No Yes Yes	No Visitors' policy per se, however required regulations and actions are captured in Prevent policy and staff handbook. As part of this, Events are risk assessed and safeguarding incorporated in that process. As appropriate, Parents accompanied See Visiting Speakers Protocol - Appendix to Prevent Policy	
2.6	Is Prevent included within the Institution's Contractors Policy? Are due diligence checks conducted on contractors working at the school or providing extra curricular activities? Does the policy set out clear protocols for ensuring that any visiting contractors are suitable and appropriately supervised in school?	Bursar	Yes	Contractors Policy	
2.7	Is Prevent and agenda item of relevant meetings/planning processes?	DSL	Yes	Risk and Compliance (Governors' meeting)	
2.8	Is there a clear referral route for vulnerable individuals to receive support through the Channel process?	DSL	Yes	See Prevent Policy and Oxfordshire Prevent Referral Pathway	
2.9	Are fundamental British values promoted in the delivery of the curriculum and extra-curricular activities and reflected in the general conduct of the school?		Yes	See curriculum, especially Personal Development and General Studies - appendix to Prevent policy summarising teaching in PD and GS.	

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Working in Partnership					
No		Owner	Done?	Evidence	RAG status
3.1	Does the Institution have engagement with wider Prevent work through their local Prevent Partnership?	DSL	as needed	We have a Community Safety Partnership for South and Vale we could access as needed.	
3.3	Is the Institution included in an agreed Prevent Partnership Communication Policy?	DSL	as needed		
3.4	Do the safeguarding arrangements take into account the procedures and practice of the local authority as part of the inter-agency safeguarding procedures set up by the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)?	DSL	Yes	See Child Protection and Prevent Policies.	
3.5	Do the child protection policies describe procedures which are in accordance with government guidance and refer to locally agreed inter-agency procedures put in place by the LSCB?	DSL	Yes	as above	
Staff training					
No		Owner	Done?	Evidence	RAG status
4.1	Does the Institution have an annual policy and training review process in place?	CC	Yes	CC=compliance co-ordinator. Done in staff meeting minutes/VwV training	
4.2	Does the Institution regularly assess Prevent Training needs to raise their awareness of Prevent issues with staff and the Governing body? Do staff members have sufficient training to give them the knowledge and confidence to identify children at risk of being drawn into terrorism and challenge extremist ideas which can be used to legitimise terrorism and are shared by terrorist groups?	DSL	Yes	Covered in training. DSL works with Safeguarding Governor	
4.3	Are staff members aware of Prevent issues and the referrals process into the Channel process?	DSL	Yes	Staff meeting minutes/video	
Safety Online					
No		Owner	Done?	Evidence	RAG status
5.1	Does the School IT system have appropriate levels of filtering to ensure children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in school?	DSL/DIRIT	Yes	Firewall managed by CTS	
5.2	What processes and procedures are in place to ensure children use the internet responsibly?	DSL/Dir IT	Yes	e-safe monitors all network traffic and sends emails to DSL if there are issues	
5.3	Do staff, pupils and carers receive any Internet Safety awareness training?	DSL	Yes	eg Digital Awareness PD and GS	
Risk Assessment completed by DSL in consultation with Headmistress					Lent 2021

Appendix 2 Protocol on visiting speakers

Key concepts

The member of staff inviting the speaker into school has the responsibility to undertake due diligence checks. See the actions list below. All speakers must uphold fundamental British values which means that:

- The visiting speaker is not permitted to encourage, glorify or promote any acts of law breaking, terrorism, including individuals, groups or organisations that support such acts.
- The visiting speaker must not spread hatred, intolerance or suspicion of any minority group/s in the community.
- The visiting speaker must seek to avoid insulting other faiths or groups, within a framework of positive debate and challenge.
- The visiting speaker is not permitted to raise or gather funds for any external organisation of cause without express permission from the Headmistress.

School staff are responsible for managing a situation during which there is a violation of the requirements above. This might include ensuring that a counter argument is outlined; it could mean requiring the immediate ending of the talk/presentation.

Actions you should take to do due diligence on speakers

1. Know the organisation they are from and research it to understand the organisations and speaker's background. You may decide that you need a biography from the speaker.
2. Please ensure that you record your checks on the form outside the staff room. Staff should be aware that without these checks taking place, the School does not give permission for the event to go ahead.
3. Understand the outline of the talk/presentation in advance.
4. If you have any concerns discuss these Director of Students before issuing a formal invitation to the speaker.
5. Speakers can be controversial and we want our students to be open to provocative debate. Provided a speaker pays due attention to the Equality Act 2010 and you have a plan to balance any views then we should not take action that limits freedom of speech. However, speakers must uphold fundamental British Values and the rule of law. You need to make this clear to them.
6. If you wish to book a speaker who is known to be controversial, then discuss your plans with the Director of Students. It may be prudent to have a member of the Leadership Team at the event to provide additional management support.
7. If you are concerned about anything said during the talk and feel the views are extreme you should **stop** the talk early.

Please note:

- Speakers are not allowed to raise funds without prior permission from the Headmistress. This is unlikely to be given and speakers should be made aware of this before they confirm.
- Speakers are not allowed to ask students to join an organisation there and then. There may be occasions when it is appropriate for them to suggest that students sign up afterwards in their own time (e.g. voluntary service organisations) but this needs to be pre-agreed with the Director of Students.

Appendix 3- basic information on Prevent.

Source: <https://www.oscb.org.uk/safeguarding-themes/prevent/>

Radicalisation

The Government has defined extremism as:

“Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces”.

Children and young people can be radicalised in different ways:

- They can be groomed either online or in person by people seeking to draw them into extremist activity. Older children or young people might be radicalised over the internet or through the influence of their peer network – in this instance their parents might not know about this or feel powerless to stop their child’s radicalisation;
- They can be groomed by family members who hold harmful, extreme beliefs, including parents/carers and siblings who live with the child and/or person(s) who live outside the family home but have an influence over the child’s life;
- They can be exposed to violent, anti-social, extremist imagery, rhetoric and writings which can lead to the development of a distorted world view in which extremist ideology seems reasonable. In this way they are not being individually targeted but are the victims of propaganda which seeks to radicalise

A common feature of radicalisation is that the child or young person does not recognise the exploitative nature of what is happening and does not see themselves as a victim of grooming or exploitation. Extremists can target and groom impressionable young people through social media and the internet in order to influence their minds in much the same way that sexual predators operate online. Their message can have a powerful impact on someone who is young and vulnerable; possibly unsure of their path in life, and who may lack confidence.

Prevent is one of the four core elements of the: [Government’s Strategy for countering terrorism \(CONTEST\)](#)

- **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

The Prevent strategy has three main objectives:

- **Objective one:** Ideology – respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism;
- **Objective two:** Supporting vulnerable people – prevent people from being drawn into terrorism; and
- **Objective three:** Work with key sectors and institutions – address risks.