



Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Safeguarding Guidance

Safeguarding Governor:	Fiona Torley and Hannah Taylor
Designated Safeguarding Lead:	Charlotte Sweeney-Gillings
Status:	Statutory
Review cycle:	Biennial
Last reviewed:	May 2026
Date of next review:	May 2028

Introduction

The Prevent Strategy forms part of the Government's wider counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST, and aims to stop individuals from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. At Connaught Junior School, this duty is embedded within our wider safeguarding responsibilities and should be read in conjunction with *Keeping Children Safe in Education* and the school's *Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy*.

Connaught Junior School is a caring, inclusive and ambitious learning community where safeguarding is at the heart of all we do. We are committed to developing the whole child through inspirational teaching and a broad, balanced and creative curriculum. As such, we recognise that protecting pupils from the risks of radicalisation is an essential part of ensuring they are safe, happy, and able to thrive.

Our approach to Prevent is rooted in our core values of being Caring, Confident and Committed, which underpin all aspects of school life. We strive to develop caring citizens who contribute positively to society, confident individuals who can live safe and fulfilling lives, and committed learners who think critically and engage meaningfully with the world around them. These values support pupils in building resilience to extremist influences and enable them to make informed, responsible decisions.

We recognise that radicalisation is a safeguarding concern and that children, regardless of background, may be vulnerable to influence from extremist ideologies. Our Prevent duty is applied in a proportionate and inclusive way, ensuring that no individual or group is unfairly targeted.

Through our curriculum, pupils are immersed in meaningful learning experiences that develop critical thinking, resilience and independence. The curriculum actively promotes the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. These are further reinforced through assemblies, pupil leadership opportunities and a strong culture of respect and inclusion across the school.

Connaught Junior School works to ensure that all pupils feel safe, valued and included. Our strong pastoral systems, high expectations and inclusive ethos support children to develop positive relationships and a sense of belonging.

Headteacher: Miss S McGann

Deputy Headteacher: Miss K Whiting

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Registered number: 0856427

Registered Office: 39 Guildford Road, Lightwater GU18 5SA

Definitions

For the purpose of this guidance:

- **Extremism** is defined 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. It also includes calls for the death of members of the armed forces.
- **Radicalisation** refers to the process by which an individual comes to support extremist ideologies or forms of extremism, including terrorism. *Radicalisation can occur through a range of methods, including online platforms, peer influence and exposure to wider societal narratives.*
- **Terrorism** is defined as an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person or people, causes serious damage to property, or seriously interferes with or disrupts an electronic system, where the intention is to influence the government or to intimidate the public for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause.

Local Context and Risk

Connaught Junior School is located in Bagshot, Surrey, an area which has historically experienced low levels of terrorism-related activity. However, the school recognises that the national threat level remains at *SEVERE*, meaning that an attack is highly likely (Counter Terrorism Policing, 2026), and that the risk of radicalisation is not confined to any one geographical area or community.

While there are currently no specific known local incidents directly impacting the school community, local, regional and national intelligence highlights that risks remain present, particularly in relation to online radicalisation, social media and exposure to extremist content. These risks may involve a range of ideologies and can affect individuals regardless of background or location.

The school serves a diverse community and is committed to promoting inclusion, equality and mutual respect. The school therefore adopts a vigilant and proactive approach, ensuring that pupils are equipped with the knowledge, skills and resilience to recognise and challenge extremist narratives.

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This understanding of both local and national risk informs the school's Prevent duty, ensuring that safeguarding measures are proportionate, responsive and regularly reviewed. Connaught Junior School works closely with local safeguarding partners, including Surrey safeguarding networks and Prevent professionals, in order to remain informed about emerging risks and best practice.

Indicators of Vulnerability to Radicalisation

It is important to note that the behaviours listed below do not necessarily mean that a child is being radicalised. These indicators should be considered alongside other safeguarding concerns, professional judgement and the context of the individual child.

Possible indicators may include:

- Increased isolation from peers or disengagement from school
- Changes in behaviour, appearance or presentation of identity
- Use of language, symbols or narratives associated with extremist ideologies
- Fixation on specific grievances, injustices or conspiracy theories
- Expressing intolerance towards others or unwillingness to engage with differing views
- Accessing, sharing or being influenced by inappropriate or harmful online content
- Changes in friendship groups or increased influence from outside peer groups
- A desire for belonging, identity or purpose that may make the pupil more vulnerable to influence

All concerns must be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) in line with the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding procedures.

Implementation of the Prevent Duty

In line with the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, the school has due regard to the need to prevent individuals from being drawn into terrorism. This is achieved through:

- ✓ Robust safeguarding and child protection procedures
- ✓ Regular staff training to ensure awareness of radicalisation risks and indicators
- ✓ Clear reporting processes led by the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
- ✓ A curriculum that promotes critical thinking, resilience and British values

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- ✓ Early identification of concerns and appropriate intervention
- ✓ Strong partnership working with external agencies, including the local authority and Prevent team

Referral to Channel

Channel is a voluntary, multi-agency safeguarding programme which provides support to individuals who may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. It is part of the Prevent Strategy and works in a similar way to other safeguarding processes, focusing on early intervention and support.

If concerns are identified, these should be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) in line with the school's safeguarding procedures. The DSL will consider whether a referral to Channel is appropriate and will liaise with relevant external agencies as required.

The aim of Channel is to ensure that vulnerable individuals receive the appropriate support before concerns escalate. Participation is voluntary and based on consent.

Overall, our approach to Prevent focuses on early help, education and support, ensuring that pupils develop the knowledge, skills and values needed to remain safe and become responsible, active members of society.

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Appendix 1: Prevent Duty Risk Assessment

The school's Prevent Duty Risk Assessment should be read in conjunction with this guidance. It is reviewed annually, or sooner in response to changes in local or national risk.

School: Connaught Junior School

Lead: Charlotte Sweeney-Gillings, Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

This risk assessment is informed by:

- National threat level (currently **SEVERE**)
- Local safeguarding intelligence (Surrey Prevent / safeguarding partners)
- School context, including pupil demographics and community profile

It is a **live document** reviewed annually or in response to emerging risks.

Risk Area 1: Leadership & Governance						
Risk	Who is at risk	Risk Level	Current Controls	Further Actions / Next Steps	Evidence / Impact	Responsibility
Lack of strategic oversight of Prevent duty	Pupils, staff	Low	• DSL and SLT trained in Prevent • Safeguarding governor oversight	Annual safeguarding audit to explicitly include Prevent	Governor minutes; audit records	DSL / SLT / Governor

			Prevent included in policy cycle			
Staff unaware of Prevent responsibilities	Pupils	Medium	- Annual Prevent training - Safeguarding briefings - KCSIE read annually	Introduce scenario-based refresher training; staff confidence audit	Training logs; staff survey results	DSL
Staff lack confidence engaging external agencies	Pupils	Medium	- DSL leads referrals - CPOMS logging - strong partnership working	Share case studies (anonymised) in staff briefings	Referral records; DSL notes	DSL
Parents/carers reluctant to raise concerns	Pupils	Medium	- FSW support - open communication channels - staff visibility	Develop Prevent awareness information for parents	Parent feedback; engagement records	DSL / All staff

Risk Area 2: Safeguarding Systems & Processes						
Risk	Who is at risk	Risk Level	Current Controls	Further Actions	Evidence / Impact	Responsibility

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Approved By:
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Failure to identify early signs of radicalisation	Pupils	Medium	• Strong safeguarding culture • CPOMS recording • DSL oversight	Add Prevent-specific category/tag within CPOMS	Monitoring reports	DSL
Inconsistent response to concerns	Pupils	Low	• Clear reporting pathways • DSL decision-making • Channel awareness	Annual review of Prevent referral procedures	Case audits	DSL
Lack of understanding of Channel process	Pupils	Medium	• DSL trained • staff aware of referral route	Create staff flowchart for Prevent referrals	Staff feedback	DSL

Risk Area 3: Curriculum & Pupil Resilience						
Risk	Who is at risk	Risk Level	Current Controls	Further Actions	Evidence / Impact	Responsibility

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Pupils not equipped to challenge extremist narratives	Pupils	Medium	• PSHE curriculum • British values • Assemblies • pupil voice	Map explicit Prevent links across curriculum	Curriculum maps	SLT / Subject leads
Lack of critical thinking skills	Pupils	Medium	• Curriculum promotes discussion and debate • inclusive ethos	Introduce age-appropriate media literacy focus	Work scrutiny; pupil interviews	SLT
Limited exposure to diversity	Pupils	Low	• Inclusive curriculum • celebration of diversity	Increase opportunities for wider cultural engagement	Displays; curriculum plans	SLT

Risk Area 4: Online Safety & IT Systems						
Risk	Who is at risk	Risk Level	Current Controls	Further Actions	Evidence / Impact	Responsibility
Exposure to online radicalisation	Pupils	High	• Filtering and monitoring systems; staff	Regular review of filtering reports; staff training on online	IT reports; safeguarding logs	DSL / IT lead

			supervision; online safety curriculum	radicalisation indicators		
Staff unaware of online risks linked to extremism	Pupils	Medium	Online safety training; safeguarding briefings	Add explicit Prevent-online links in training	Staff survey	DSL
Inappropriate use of school IT systems	Pupils	Low	Acceptable use policies; monitoring	Annual review of AUP language	Policy records	SLT

Risk Area 5: External Speakers, Visits & Lettings						
Risk	Who is at risk	Risk Level	Current Controls	Further Actions	Evidence / Impact	Responsibility
Exposure to extremist views via visitors	Pupils	Low	- Visitor checks - Staff supervision - Safeguarding procedures	Create formal visitor risk assessment checklist	Visitor logs	SLT
Unvetted use of school premises	Community	Low	- Lettings policy - oversight by leadership	Ensure Prevent wording included in lettings agreements	Lettings records	SBM / SLT

Risk Area 6: Staff Training & Recruitment						
Risk	Who is at risk	Risk Level	Current Controls	Further Actions	Evidence / Impact	Responsibility
Staff not trained in Prevent	Pupils	Medium	- Annual Prevent training - Induction process	Track 100% compliance; refresher programme	Training records	DSL
Safer recruitment not considering extremism risk	Pupils	Low	Safer recruitment procedures	Ensure Prevent explicitly referenced in recruitment training	SCR / training logs	SLT

Risk Area 6: Community & Local Context						
Risk	Who is at risk	Risk Level	Current Controls	Further Actions	Evidence / Impact	Responsibility
Lack of awareness of local risks	Pupils	Medium	Engagement with Surrey safeguarding partners	Termly review of local Prevent intelligence	DSL briefings	DSL

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			• DSL updates			
Community tensions impacting pupils	Pupils	Low	• Inclusive ethos • Pastoral support systems	Monitor pupil voice and wellbeing data	Behaviour / wellbeing records	SLT
Isolation or vulnerability of pupils	Pupils	Medium	• Strong pastoral care • Early help processes	Strengthen links with external agencies	Case studies	DSL