



AVANTI SCHOOLS TRUST

Prevent Duty Policy

September 2020

Review date: September 2021

Avanti Hall School

Document Title	Prevent Duty Policy
Date of Creation	September 2020
Author/Owner	Billy Lee
Approving Committee	SW Hub Governance Board
Reviewing Years	1
Date due for review	September 2021

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Once approved, a copy of this document should be sent to the following for information only.

Name	Department or Role	Date
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Contents

1. Mission Statement
2. Staff Training
3. Safeguarding
4. Promotion of British Values
5. ICT Use
6. Related Policies and Further Guidance Appendix: Self-Evaluation Action Table

1. Mission Statement

- 1.1 Avanti Hall School (AHS) recognises its duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 to have 'due regard to the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism'.
- 1.2 AHS accepts the Department for Education's definition of 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, whether in this country or overseas. Terrorist groups very often draw on extremist ideas developed by extremist organisations'.
- 1.3 The purpose of our Prevent Duty Policy is, therefore, to combat the radicalisation of potentially vulnerable youths by protecting them from extremist views, and combating those views should they arise within the remit of AHS. Furthermore, the school will strive to offer support to those staff or pupils who have been exposed to such material.
- 1.4 Fulfilling this duty involves the undertaking of efforts to identify potentially radicalising factors and material (including access to it, i.e. the internet, and specific sites) and potentially vulnerable youths, as well as the management of these risks through: existing safeguarding measures, the teaching of British values, and the providing of a system of support and guidance.
- 1.5 AHS wishes to emphasise that the Prevent Duty Policy is not intended to stop pupils debating controversial issues. It simply wishes to provide a safe environment within which they can do so, while also making them aware of the risks associated with terrorism, thereby providing them with the knowledge and skills to be able to challenge and reject extremist arguments.

2. Staff Training

- 2.1 In order for schools and childcare providers to fulfil the Prevent Duty it is essential that staff receive adequate training so that they are able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation and know what to do when they are identified.
- 2.2 The Designated Safeguarding Lead at Avanti Hall School must undertake Prevent awareness training.
- 2.3 Other staff will receive regular in-house training on Prevent awareness and will be encouraged to undertake external training.
- 2.4 As a minimum all staff should read the online general awareness training module provided by 'Channel', an early stage support system for those pupils identified as being potentially vulnerable to radicalisation. This can be accessed on the following link
https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/channel_awareness/01-welcome.html
- 2.5 If a member of staff has a concern about a particular pupil, they should follow the school's normal safeguarding procedures (as referenced in the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy). This will include speaking to the Designated Safeguarding Lead, reporting on CPOMS and, if required, contacting children's social care.
- 2.6 If staff have further concerns about a pupil they can, in accord with their Channel training, the Designated Safeguarding Lead will refer the pupil to the Channel Programme.
- 2.7 There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to an extremist ideology. Therefore, staff must use their professional judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately.

3. Safeguarding

- 3.1 Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is part of the school's wider safeguarding duties, and should be treated in the same vein as protecting children from other harms (e.g. drugs, gangs, neglect, sexual exploitation), whether these come from within the school, the family, or outside influences.
- 3.2 Staff must be alert to changes in children's 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.
- 3.3 The Designated Safeguarding Lead must receive appropriate training (see 2.2).
- 3.4 It is the responsibility of the Designated Safeguarding Lead to raise awareness of the risks of radicalisation amongst the staff and ensure that staff safeguarding training (see Child Protection Policy) takes the Prevent Duty into account.
- 3.5 The Local Authority and the Police will be able to provide help and advice if necessary, as well as contextual information to further help understand and identify the potential risks.

4. Promotion of British Values

- 4.1 The school will seek to build pupils' resilience to radicalisation through the promotion of fundamental British values and democratic principles, thus enabling them to challenge extremist views within a safe and informed environment.
- 4.2 PSHE classes will be utilised as an effective means of providing pupils with the time and opportunity to explore and engage with such controversial issues as radicalisation and extremism, equipping them with the knowledge and ability to understand and manage difficult situations.
- 4.3 PSHE classes should, therefore, directly address the issues raised by the Prevent Duty, as well as teaching pupils about British values, democracy and how the government works, and British law.

- 4.4 It is important for pupils to engage with political and national events and developments, and all efforts should be made to incorporate these into both curricular and extra-curricular activities. For instance, the holding of mock political debates around elections.
- 4.5 AHS also promotes respect and sensitivity for other cultures and peoples through both the curriculum and extra-curricular activities.
- 4.6 Many elements of British values will already be taught within a range of subjects in the curriculum.

5. **ICT Use**

- 5.1 All pupils and staff must be aware of the potential dangers of the availability online of extremist doctrines and be alert to the risk of radicalisation.
- 5.2 Such material should, as far as possible, be made inaccessible through appropriate filtering.
- 5.3 Where this fails any interaction with extremist websites or materials must be recorded and reported. The DSL should then talk to the pupil or member of staff in question.

6. **Related Policies and Further Guidance**

- 6.1 Related Policies: Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, Anti-bullying and cyber-bullying policy
- 6.2 Further guidance can be found

Government Prevent Duty guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>

Channel Awareness Training:

http://course.ncalt.com/Channel_General_Awareness/01/index.html

UK Safer Internet:

<http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/>

Promoting British Values

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/guidance-on-promoting-british-values-in-schools-published>

Anti-Terrorist Hotline 0800 789 321

Email prevent@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.

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