



PREVENT Policy

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Director with Safeguarding Responsibility : Kay Jones



1. Rationale:

The PREVENT Policy is designed to safeguard children, young people, and vulnerable adults from the risk of radicalisation and extremist influences. It supports the organisation's commitment to promoting the welfare, safety, and wellbeing of all individuals by ensuring that concerns relating to vulnerability to extremism are identified and responded to appropriately.

As part of the wider safeguarding framework, PREVENT recognises that radicalisation can have a significant impact on an individual's safety, development, and life opportunities. Individuals may be exposed to extremist ideologies through a variety of sources, including online platforms, social networks, and personal relationships. Early identification and intervention are therefore essential in reducing the risk of individuals being drawn into terrorism or extremist activity.

This policy provides staff, Directors, and other stakeholders with clear guidance on their responsibilities in recognising signs of radicalisation, sharing concerns appropriately, and working in partnership with safeguarding agencies. It ensures compliance with statutory safeguarding duties and promotes a culture of vigilance, inclusion, respect, and resilience against extremist narratives.

Bettws Lifehouse is committed to upholding fundamental British Values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. Through education, awareness, and effective safeguarding practices, Bettws Lifehouse seeks to create a safe environment where individuals feel valued, heard, and protected from harm.

By implementing this policy, the Bettws Lifehouse demonstrates its commitment to meeting its legal responsibilities, protecting vulnerable individuals, and contributing to safer communities through the prevention of radicalisation and extremism.

1. Policy Statement

Bettws Lifehouse School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all pupils. We recognise that protecting children from radicalisation and extremism is part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities.

The school acknowledges its responsibilities under the Prevent Duty and will work to prevent vulnerable individuals from being drawn into terrorism, extremism, or radicalisation. We will provide a safe environment where pupils can discuss controversial issues, develop critical thinking skills, and learn how to challenge extremist narratives safely.

This policy should be read alongside:



- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Online Safety Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Whistleblowing Policy

2. Legal Framework

This policy is informed by:

- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children
- Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales
- Equality Act 2010
- Human Rights Act 1998

3. Aims

The school aims to:

- Safeguard pupils from radicalisation and extremist influences.
- Ensure staff understand their responsibilities under the Prevent Duty.
- Promote British Values and respect for diversity.
- Build pupils' resilience to extremist narratives.
- Establish clear procedures for identifying and responding to concerns.
- Work collaboratively with safeguarding partners and external agencies.

4. Definitions

Extremism

Extremism is the vocal or active opposition to fundamental British Values, including:

- Democracy
- Rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

Radicalisation

Radicalisation refers to the process through which an individual comes to support terrorism or extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.



Terrorism

The use or threat of action designed to influence government or intimidate the public for political, religious, racial, or ideological purposes.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

Directors

The Directors will:

- Ensure compliance with the Prevent Duty.
- Monitor implementation of this policy.
- Ensure safeguarding arrangements are effective.
- Support the DSL in managing Prevent concerns.

Headteacher

The Headteacher will:

- Promote a culture of safeguarding.
- Ensure appropriate staff training.
- Support implementation of Prevent procedures.
- Liaise with external agencies when necessary.

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

The DSL will:

- Act as the lead professional for Prevent concerns.
- Maintain up-to-date Prevent training.
- Assess and record concerns.
- Make referrals to Children's Services, the Police, or Channel where appropriate.
- Provide advice and support to staff.
- Maintain secure records of concerns and actions taken.

All Staff

All staff must:

- Understand the Prevent Duty.
- Undertake safeguarding and Prevent training.
- Be alert to signs of radicalisation.
- Report concerns immediately to the DSL.
- Promote inclusion, tolerance, and respect.



6. Risk Assessment

The school will undertake regular assessments of the risk of pupils being exposed to:

- Extremist ideologies
- Radicalising influences
- Terrorist content online
- Hate-based narratives
- Grooming by extremist groups

The assessment will consider:

- Local and national risks
- Online safety issues
- Vulnerable pupil groups
- Community factors
- Emerging themes and trends

Risk assessments will be reviewed at least annually or when significant concerns arise.

7. Recognising Vulnerability to Radicalisation

There is no single profile of an individual vulnerable to radicalisation. Indicators may include:

Personal Factors

- Social isolation
- Low self-esteem
- Identity concerns
- Emotional vulnerabilities
- Experience of trauma

Behavioural Indicators

- Sudden changes in behaviour or appearance
- Becoming withdrawn or secretive
- Expressing extremist views
- Intolerance of differing opinions
- Justifying violence

Online Indicators

- Accessing extremist websites



- Sharing extremist material
- Secretive online activity
- Participation in extremist forums or groups

These indicators do not automatically indicate radicalisation but should prompt consideration and discussion with the DSL.

8. Promoting British Values

The school actively promotes:

Democracy

- Student voice activities
- School council participation
- Discussion and debate

Rule of Law

- School rules
- Behaviour management
- Understanding rights and responsibilities

Individual Liberty

- Encouraging Independent thinking
- Safe decision-making
- Personal responsibility

Mutual Respect and Tolerance

- Inclusive curriculum
- Celebration of diversity
- Respectful relationships

9. Curriculum

The curriculum supports Prevent through:

- Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE)
- Socail, Moral, Spiritual, Cultural Education (SMSC)
- Relationships Education
- Citizenship
- Religious Education
- Online Safety Education



Pupils are taught:

- Critical thinking skills
- Media literacy
- How to identify misinformation
- Respectful challenge and debate
- Safe use of the internet

10. Online Safety

The school recognises the internet can be used to radicalise young people.

The school will:

- Use appropriate filtering and monitoring systems.
- Teach pupils about online risks.
- Monitor online safety concerns.
- Respond to extremist content appropriately.
- Follow safeguarding procedures regarding harmful online behaviour.

Any concerns relating to online radicalisation will be reported to the DSL immediately.

11. Visiting Speakers and External Agencies

The school values external contributions while ensuring pupil safety.

Before inviting speakers, the school will:

- Conduct appropriate due diligence.
- Ensure speakers are suitable.
- Assess potential risks.
- Maintain staff supervision.
- Ensure balanced viewpoints are presented.

Speakers promoting extremist or discriminatory views will not be permitted.

12. Staff Training

All staff will receive:

- Induction safeguarding training
- Prevent awareness training
- Regular safeguarding updates
- Ongoing professional development



Training will ensure staff understand:

- Signs of radicalisation
- Referral procedures
- Their safeguarding responsibilities
- Current local and national concerns

13. Reporting Concerns

Any member of staff who has concerns regarding a pupil must:

Step 1

Record concerns promptly and factually.

Step 2

Report concerns immediately to the DSL or Deputy DSL.

Step 3

The DSL will:

- Assess the concern.
- Consider safeguarding risks.
- Seek advice where necessary.
- Decide appropriate next steps.

14. Referral Process

Where concerns indicate a risk of radicalisation:

1. DSL gathers information.
2. DSL consults relevant safeguarding agencies.
3. Referral may be made to:
 - Children's Services
 - Police Prevent Team
 - Local Prevent Lead
 - Channel Programme

The school will cooperate fully with partner agencies.



15. The Channel Programme

Channel is a voluntary, confidential multi-agency programme providing support for people at risk of being drawn into terrorism.

Where appropriate, the DSL may make a referral to Channel following local safeguarding procedures.

16. Information Sharing

Information will be shared:

- Where lawful and necessary.
- In line with safeguarding responsibilities.
- Following data protection legislation.

The welfare and safety of the child will remain the primary consideration.

17. Equality and Diversity

The school will ensure that implementation of the Prevent Duty:

- Does not stigmatise individuals or groups.
- Promotes equality and inclusion.
- Respects faith, culture, and protected characteristics.
- Encourages respect for diverse viewpoints.

18. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be:

- Reviewed annually.
- Monitored by the DSL and Headteacher.
- Updated following legislative changes, safeguarding updates, or local risk assessments.

Appendix 1: Prevent Concern Reporting Flowchart

Concern identified by staff member



Record facts and observations



Report immediately to DSL/Deputy DSL



DSL assesses risk and gathers information





Consult safeguarding partners if necessary



Referral to Children's Services / Prevent Team / Channel where appropriate



Monitor and support pupil