Acorn Education Trust

The Prevent Duty: risk assessment for Pewsey Vale School 2024-2025

Risk Description	Action Requirements
High Risk	Risk will be actively managed with control measures.
Medium Risk	Monitor and take appropriate action to reduce risk if possible.
Low Risk	Risk to have low priority in the risk register.

Pewsey Vale School - Prevent duty risk assessment

Children may be susceptible to radicalisation into terrorism. Similar to protecting children from other forms of harms and abuse, protecting children from this risk should be a part of a schools safeguarding approach.

Extremism is the vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. This also includes calling for the death of members of the armed forces.

Radicalisation is the process of a person legitimising support for, or use of, terrorist violence.

Terrorism is an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people; causes serious damage to property; or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause.
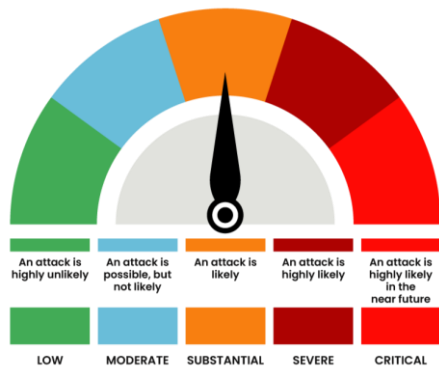
National Risk

The current threat from Terrorism and Extremism in the UK is real and severe and can involve the exploitation of vulnerable people, including children to involve them in extremist activity.

The current threat level is SUBSTANTIAL.

The threat of a terrorist attack in the UK is currently assessed as SUBSTANTIAL, meaning an attack is likely. This was lowered on 9th February 2022.

The most recent terrorist attack in the UK was the Hartlepool attack in 2023 where one man died and another seriously injured. The defendant had expressed, during the time of his arrest and whilst in custody, that his actions were inspired by the Israel-Hamas conflict. He was subsequently sentenced to life imprisonment.

There are extremist groups operating online to recruit individuals and groups to join their organisations to spread hate messages against groups/faiths/women etc. Individuals who have been radicalised pose a risk to the public. They may be travelling on public transport, in public places at events, or try to gain access to public buildings and carry out an act of terrorism.

Local Risk - South West Counter Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP) 2024

A CTLP summary approved by Counter Terrorism Policing SW

In July 2024, the most recent CTLPs were released by each police force area in the SW. The CTLPs provide an updated summary of the threat and risk across the region and at force level.

The predominant ideologies seen in the SW in both Prevent referrals and police investigations are Extreme Right-Wing Terrorism (ERWT) and Islamist Terrorism (IT) and to a lesser extent Left Wing and Single-Issue Terrorism (LASIT).

Emerging Issues – Israel-Hamas Conflict

Previous conflicts in Gaza have led to a spike in antisemitic hate crime and pro-Palestinian protests throughout the UK. Work is ongoing to try and understand any long-term impact or radicalising influences within the SW.

Since the start of the Israel-Hamas conflict, there has been an increase in reporting in support of Hamas in Wiltshire based on previous trends and the ongoing conflict. The ongoing conflict will likely continue to heighten tensions amongst the Jewish and Muslim communities.

Having an understanding of these ideologies will help to identify anyone suitable for Prevent referral and also support confidence in counter narrative. Remembering you should consider/identify the ideology when considering a Prevent referral.

Islamist Inspired Terrorism

We're most likely to be impacted by Islamist Terrorist groups and ideologies which arise from extremist interpretations of Islam, and the establishment of Islamic states and revenge against the West for perceived wrongs against Muslim people. The terrorist groups originate from countries such as Syria, Iraq, Middle East, West Africa and Afghanistan and include groups such as Al Qaeda (AQ) and Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). The tactics used may not to direct attacks but influence, and the UK remains a priority target.

Extreme Right-Wing Terrorism

Classified by three ideologies (see below) remains a threat mainly due to the online sharing of material, memes and discussion. Proscribed terrorist groups such as Feuerkrieg Division, Sonnenkreig Division and Atomwaffen Division continues to influence.

- **White Supremacy** - belief that the 'white race' has certain inalienable physical and mental characteristics that makes it superior,
- **White Nationalism** - belief that mass migration from the 'non white' world, and demographic change, poses an existential threat to the 'white race' and 'western culture'.
- **Cultural Nationalism** - belief that 'western culture' is under threat from mass migration into Europe and from a lack of integration by certain ethnic and cultural groups.

Left-Wing and Single Issue Terrorism (LASIT)

With a well-established footprint in the SW, this ideology includes activity such as extreme environmental, incel motivated behaviours and animal rights terrorism, mainly evident through low level protest and activism.

The use of the **online** space continues to be a significant risk with the viewing of online material having the potential to encourage self-initiated terrorism/attacks (S-IT). In addition, a notable threat is the online sharing of propaganda and extremist material (potential Terrorism Act offences), and recruitment into extremist and/or terrorist organisations.

We continue to see significant increases in those aged under 18 under investigation/arrested both nationally and regionally most notably with online offences - supporting why early intervention via Prevent is so important.
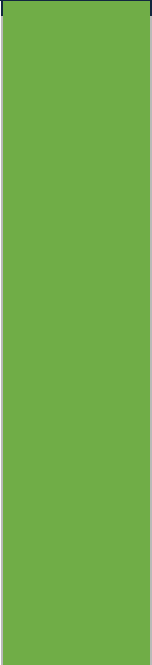
Self-Initiated Terrorist (S-IT)

Self-initiated terrorists are the UK's most likely threat due to the difficulty to predict and detect potential attacks and the use of low sophistication easily accessible weapons such as vehicles and bladed weapons. Often influenced by online material and extreme content and are classified as being individuals or small groups who may be inspired or encouraged by organised terrorist groups but threaten or mobilise to violence without direction or material support.
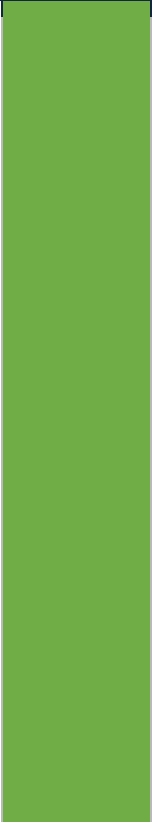
Common to all these ideologies is the use of the online space to help recruit, radicalise, and share materials so online safety and security is vital in helping safeguard our learners.

PREVENT

- There was an increase in the number of referrals to Prevent to 2022 (+8%), with some relating to individuals who have been referred multiple times over the past few years.
- The highest volume of Prevent referrals came from the education sector, specifically schools (48% of all referrals).
- The majority of referrals were male, predominately aged under 30 years, although there was a small increase in the number of female referrals compared to 2022.
- Prevent referrals continue to feature individuals who display a number of complex issues and vulnerabilities which influences their behaviour, and the vast majority of cases were closed with no CT Concerns.

Leadership

HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK?	ACTIONS IN PLACE	OWNER	RISK LEVEL	ADDITIONAL NOTES / NEXT STEPS
The values and ethos of the school are unsuitable for promoting resilience against extremist ideologies and promoting British values	Pupils, staff and Academy Council	The school values clearly set out our commitment to British values. • School values are displayed on the home page of our website. • Our Values include a commitment to tolerance, diversity and mutual respect. • School and British values both reflect on and taught through PSHRE. • Radicalisation and online safety is embedded in our PSHE curriculum. • Students are taught explicitly about British Values through PSHE lessons and the tutor curriculum, including the signs and dangers of extremism and radicalisation. • The British Values are also upheld in the Acorn trust Equality Objectives, adopted by Pewsey Vale School.	Head/DSL and DDSL's		Regular review of core values and ethos on the website. Monitor the effectiveness of the PHSRE curriculum through regular quality assurance as well as student and parent voice.

HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK?	ACTIONS IN PLACE	OWNER	RISK LEVEL	ADDITIONAL NOTES / NEXT STEPS
Leaders are unaware of their responsibilities under the Prevent duty, and of the context of the school relating to the risk of extremism	Pupils and staff	School leaders are aware of their duty to prevent pupils being drawn into terrorism, and make sure all staff know the same. School leaders stay up to date with local developments and risks. The school is in regular communication with local police. School Leaders including Headteacher, DSL and DDSLs attend regular timetabled safeguarding meetings and any concerns around radicalisation/Prevent are discussed. School leaders have undergone recent Prevent training via the National College and/or DfE in terms of Prevent Duty Awareness. DSL updates school leaders at SLT meetings.	DSL		Refresh the leadership team on the school's responsibilities under the Prevent duty. School leaders to undergo training on the Referral and channel course. Prevent guidance to be shared through bulletins/meetings accessed by all staff including school leaders.

Training and capability

HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK?	ACTIONS IN PLACE	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	RISK LEVEL	ADDITIONAL NOTES / NEXT STEPS
School staff are unaware of their responsibilities under the Prevent duty, and the need to promote British values	Pupils and staff	All staff have read our child protection policy and at least part 1 of Keeping Children Safe in Education. All staff have Prevent either through National College, the Home Office website or via Acorn resources. They complete this every year, and it is logged on our Single Central Record. Staff members are aware that they can go to Neil Pritchard (Head) or Henry Haydon (Deputy Head and DSL) for advice, support, and to escalate concerns. Staff have been trained to log all concerns via safeguard my school The role of staff members is made clear during the Annual Safeguarding training. Staff members are aware that they can go to any member of the DSL team for advice, support, and to escalate concerns if they believe necessary.	Head, DSL and DDSL All staff		Update our Safeguarding and Child Protection policy annually. Keep up to date with changes in legislation which would require further training

HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK?	ACTIONS IN PLACE	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	RISK LEVEL	ADDITIONAL NOTES / NEXT STEPS
Academy Council members do not carry out their role to monitor the school's Prevent strategy effectively	Pupils and staff	All Academy Councillors have read our child protection policy and Keeping Children Safe in Education. We have a dedicated Academy Councillor (name) that oversees our compliance regards Safeguarding and with the Prevent duty. Safeguarding is always on the AC's agenda. All governors are invited to the annual safeguarding training in September. All Academy Councillors have done Prevent training and is logged on SCR.	Head, DSL Safeguarding Academy Councillor Pewsey Vale School Academy Council		Look at assigning different foci for AC meetings with safeguarding and ensuring Prevent is one of these annually. Specific Prevent duty training may be required for all AC members.

HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK?	ACTIONS IN PLACE	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	RISK LEVEL	ADDITIONAL NOTES / NEXT STEPS

Staff do not support the school's values and ethos, or they support and promote extremist ideas	Pupils and staff	The staff recruitment process reflects the school's values and promotes good safeguarding practice.
		
		• School values and commitment to safeguarding are included in job advertisements and are part of interview questions.
		
		• Safer recruitment procedures are followed, including social media checks, references and training.
		
		    o HT/DHT and Operations Manager trained in safer recruitment.
		
		    o Prevent forms part of the induction process, as well as ensuring all new staff take the online training.
		
		• The staff recruitment process reflects the school's values and promotes good safeguarding practice. The school has a strict safer recruitment policy and procedures in place. References are verified for new staff. Staff are encouraged to report any low-level concerns to the DSL/Head.
		
		• Presenting school values and commitment to safeguarding are included in job advertisements.
		
		• Investigating candidates' understanding of safeguarding at interview
		
		• Safer recruitment procedures are followed including cross-checking at least two references, ensuring DBS checks are up to date and that proof of identity is sufficient.
		
		• Annual review of our whistle blowing policy. This is shared with all staff.
		
		==Utilising social media checks of candidates as part of the safer recruitment process, to check for any extremist and==
			Head/DHT/Operations Manager		Continue to follow the safer recruitment Acorn policy.

Working in partnership

HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK?	ACTIONS IN PLACE	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	RISK LEVEL	ADDITIONAL NOTES / NEXT STEPS
Staff do not feel comfortable or capable working with external agencies and sharing concerns about extremism externally.	Pupils and staff	We work and communicate with local safeguarding partners and other relevant agencies regarding concerns about extremism. The whole safeguarding team is aware of the process to contact other agencies and expedite concerns about extremism. Records of referrals are kept, and referrals are followed up appropriately. Any records or concerns relating to Prevent and Radicalisation are stored on Safeguard my School. All activity on *Safeguard my School* is overseen by the DSL. The DSL and DDSL are aware of the process to contact other agencies and expedite concerns about extremism. • Records of referrals are kept, and referrals are followed up appropriately. • These referrals would be made and logged on an individual child's Safeguard My School profile, as well as outcomes. • Additional whole-staff training, through termly staff meeting focus, supports staff in know the process and what to do if they feel children are at risk of extremism.	DSL and DDSL All staff		

Speakers and events

HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK?	ACTIONS IN PLACE	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	RISK LEVEL	ADDITIONAL NOTES / NEXT STEPS
Pupils are exposed to extremist ideologies by visiting speakers	Pupils	- All visiting speakers have to be approved by either the Head or DSL. - Materials that visiting speakers deliver are discussed and approved prior to their visit Visitors are never left alone with pupils and members of staff are present in talks to ensure safety. - The materials that visiting speakers deliver are discussed and approved prior to their visit. - Visitors are never left alone with pupils. - Where needed, parents/carers are informed prior to the date of visiting speakers/events. - We have appropriate whistleblowing procedures and a range of safeguarding policies which are known and understood by staff, volunteers, visitors and regular contracted staff.	Head/DSL/ Operations Manager Staff member booking visitor and/or working with visitor		A Visiting Speakers Log should be kept centrally by the Operations Manager.
The school site is used to host events which support extremist ideologies or promote hatred	Pupils and staff	All hiring and lettings agreements state that the school site will not be hired to groups who support extremist ideologies or promote hatred.	Head/Operations Manager		

School curriculum and culture

HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK?	ACTIONS IN PLACE	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	RISK LEVEL	ADDITIONAL NOTES / NEXT STEPS
The curriculum teaches damaging material or fails to challenge extremist ideologies and promote British values	Pupils	Opportunities to promote British values are clearly identified within all curriculum areas. • Use of tutor programme and PHSRE lessons for sensitive and supportive discussions on radical issues and extreme ideologies	DSL, DDSL Teachers		Review our current practices for promotion of British Values and consider if we could do more to embed these values into our curriculum
A culture of inequality or abuse is allowed to grow, enabling extremist ideology and hate to develop	Pupils, staff, governors and parents	Our behaviour policy clearly sets out that hateful behaviour is not tolerated. • Our school values, and British values, through the curriculum and worship, clearly state and ensure this culture of inequality/abuse is not tolerated. • The children discuss regularly in PSHRE, about equality and diversity. • Staff know how to respond to witnessing harassment and abusive behaviour. • Pupils are encouraged to challenge harassment or abusive behaviour among their peers. • All behaviour is logged on Classcharts and anything of this kind would be logged as a safeguarding concern.	All staff		• <mark>Staff will be reminded abut adhering to the Acorn Equalities policy.</mark> • Regular quality assurance of PSHRE lessons and tutor time.

HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK?	ACTIONS IN PLACE	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	RISK LEVEL	ADDITIONAL NOTES / NEXT STEPS
British values are not promoted outside of the classroom	Pupils and staff	Details of the steps you take to promote British values around the school, for example: • Pupils participate in democracy through student leadership processes. • Assemblies promoting diversity, human rights, and respect. • Celebrations from multiple religions and cultures are studied across the school. • School Values are promoted throughout the school and are embedded through the school rewards policy.	All staff		Impact to be monitored through student and parent voice

IT and internet safety

HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK?	ACTIONS IN PLACE	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	RISK LEVEL	ADDITIONAL NOTES / NEXT STEPS
Pupils use the school network or school hardware to access extremist material	Pupils	Our online safety and child protection policies make reference to the risks of online extremist material. Pupils are encouraged to report any material they come across online which makes them worried or uncomfortable. IT safety and monitoring systems, for example: • School has online safety policy. • The school IT network has appropriate filters to block sites deemed inappropriate or unsafe. • The school uses Lightspeed/Securly etc for both monitoring and filtering. • School email accounts are monitored by IT staff. • Both children and staff know to report anything they see online which makes them feel uncomfortable and this is reported to Excalibur if necessary • students are required to agree to an Acceptable User Agreement before using the school network. Our school IT system ensures: • Children cannot access extremist material or search for terminology related to extremism. • Any such searches are flagged to the DSL so appropriate responses can be made	All staff DSL, DDSL Excalibur		Review our online safety policy annually.

HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK?	ACTIONS IN PLACE	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	RISK LEVEL	ADDITIONAL NOTES / NEXT STEPS
Pupils access extremist material on their own devices or on social media, or are specifically targeted for online radicalisation	Pupils	• The ICT curriculum includes teaching pupils how to stay safe online. • Parents are provided with support on how to help their children access the internet safely and spot the signs of online radicalisation. • Weekly online safety section of the Parent Newsletter.	DSL, DDSL IT subject Leader All staff Parents		Share online safety factsheets with parents to help them support their children. Run annual online safety sessions for parents alongside police. Continue to support parents with information on how to stay safe online and how to help and support their children

School security

HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK?	ACTIONS IN PLACE	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	RISK LEVEL	ADDITIONAL NOTES / NEXT STEPS
Non-approved visitors access the school site to spread extremist ideology	Pupils and staff	Details of your visitor procedures, for example: • All visitors to the school must be signed in at reception and wear ID badges/stickers and colour coded lanyards (red= DBS not seen, blue= DBS seen) • All visitors are asked to read the safeguarding leaflet and child-protection policy when they sign in. o In the leaflet, it outlines what they should do if they have a concern. • Visitors are to be accompanied around the school site by a member of staff at all times unless they have provided a valid DBS identification and letter of assurance from their employer which is checked upon arrival. • Details of visitors are shared with Reception staff in advance of their visit.	Head/DSL All staff		Review our visitor safeguarding protocols. Continual review of site safety

HEADTEACHER	
Signed	December 2024

DSL/PREVENT LEAD	
Signed:	December 2024

DATE OF NEXT REVIEW:	JULY 2025 (SOONER IF CHANGES IN DSL/DDSL OR GUIDANCE)