

Prevent Duty Policy (Updated for EYFS 2025)

Policy statement

At Discoveries, we are committed to protecting children from harm, including the risk of radicalisation and exposure to extremist ideologies. This Prevent Duty Policy sets out how we comply with our statutory duty under the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 and aligns with the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) 2025 framework. We aim to create a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment where children can develop resilience against extremist influences.

Legal Framework

This policy is guided by national legislation and statutory guidance, including but not limited to:

- The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (Section 26: The Prevent Duty)
- The Children Act 1989 and 2004
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2025
- The Prevent Duty Guidance: for England and Wales (Home Office, 2023 update)
- EYFS 2025 statutory framework
- Local authority safeguarding and Prevent procedures

Implementation of the Prevent Duty

Risk Assessment

We assess the risks of children being drawn into terrorism or extremist ideologies. These risks will vary according to the local context. We remain vigilant to factors that may make children vulnerable and balance this with our duty to promote healthy discussion, freedom of expression, and critical thinking.

Working in Partnership

We work closely with the local safeguarding partners, local authority Prevent teams, and Channel panels where appropriate. Concerns about radicalisation are shared following safeguarding procedures, and referrals may be made to the Channel programme if necessary.

Staff Training

All staff receive Prevent awareness training to:

- Understand what radicalisation means and why children may be vulnerable.
- Recognise indicators of concern.
- Respond appropriately and report concerns using our safeguarding procedures.
- Training is refreshed regularly to ensure ongoing awareness.

Online Safety

We recognise the role of the internet and social media in radicalisation. Our online safety measures include:

- Age-appropriate education for children on safe internet use.
- Clear rules for staff and children regarding online access.
- Working in partnership with parents to promote online safety at home. •

Promoting British Values

We actively promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect, and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs through our curriculum and daily practice. These values are embedded in our approach to personal, social, and emotional development.

Recognising and Responding to Concerns

Staff are trained to recognise signs of radicalisation, which may include:

- Changes in behaviour, dress, or friendship groups.
- Expressing extremist views or sympathies.
- Accessing extremist materials online.

Any concerns are reported to the DSL, who will assess the risk and decide on the appropriate course of action, including referral to the local Prevent team or Channel programme.

Information Sharing

Information is shared responsibly and in line with GDPR and safeguarding requirements. Confidentiality is respected unless withholding information would put a child at risk.

References:

Department for Education (2025). Keeping Children Safe in Education: Statutory guidance for schools and colleges. London: DfE.

Home Office (2023). Prevent Duty Guidance: for England and Wales. London: HM Government