

Prevent Duty and Radicalisation Policy

Under the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, all early years providers have a duty to safeguard children from the risk of radicalisation and extremism. This means we must have “due regard” to preventing people from being drawn into terrorism and take action when we have concerns.

Our nursery recognises that children may be exposed to different views and information, some of which may be harmful. Radicalisation is a gradual process, so children may not always realise what is happening to them. We are committed to early identification, prevention, and support.

Definitions

Radicalisation

Radicalisation is the process by which an individual is influenced to adopt extreme political, social, or religious views, which may lead them to support or take part in harmful, criminal, or terrorist activities.

Radicalisation is a form of harm and may involve:

- Being groomed online or in person
- Exploitation, including sexual exploitation
- Psychological manipulation
- Exposure to violent or inappropriate material
- Risk of physical harm or death through extremist acts

Extremism

Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018) defines extremism as going beyond terrorism and including attempts to:

- Sow division between communities based on race, faith or denomination
- Justify discrimination towards women and girls
- Persuade others that minorities are inferior
- Reject democracy and the rule of law

In practice, extremism refers to holding views that oppose fundamental British values: democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

British Values

In line with the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework, we actively promote British values to help children develop respect and understanding for others.

- Democracy – encouraging children to make choices and have a voice (e.g. voting for a story or activity).
- The rule of law – helping children understand rules and boundaries in a positive way.
- Individual liberty – encouraging independence, confidence, and decision-making.
- Mutual respect and tolerance – celebrating cultural festivals and teaching respect for different backgrounds and beliefs.

Recognising Concerns

Signs a child or young person may be at risk of radicalisation (NSPCC, 2023):

- Isolating themselves from family and friends
- Talking as if from a scripted speech
- Unwillingness or inability to discuss their views
- Sudden disrespectful attitude towards others
- Increased levels of anger
- Increased secretiveness, especially about internet use

Staff must remain alert to these early signs in both children and families and document and report concerns without delay.

Our Approach

We will tackle radicalisation and extremism by:

- Training all staff to understand the Prevent Duty and how to recognise early indicators of radicalisation
- Recording and reporting all concerns in line with safeguarding procedures
- Making timely referrals to the police or Prevent helpline when necessary, sharing relevant information appropriately
- Creating an inclusive environment, tackling inequalities, challenging negative viewpoints, and promoting tolerance through British values
- Using the Government's Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales to ensure our practice is up to date

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for review
13 th September 2025	<i>Z.Gordon</i>	13 th September 2026

This policy has been read and understood by the following staff members:
