



PREVENT POLICY

DATE APPROVED	17 September 2025	DATE OF NEXT REVIEW	September 2027
POLICY OWNER(S)	Director of Adult Learning		
DESIGNATION	Centre Wide		
APPROVED BY	Trustee Board		

<p>Purpose of policy</p>	<p>The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 ('the Act') requires organisations including education settings and children's homes to have 'due regard' in the exercise of their functions to prevent people from supporting terrorism or becoming terrorists, in accordance with the Prevent duty.</p>
<p>Intended audience</p>	<p>All staff working within St Elizabeth's Centre ('the Charity')</p>
<p>Links to other policies</p>	<p>Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy (School and Sixth Form)</p> <p>Safeguarding Adults at Risk Policy and Procedure</p> <p>Children's Home Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy</p> <p>Safeguarding Adults at Risk Policy (Windhill)</p> <p>Prevent Risk Assessment</p> <p>Safer Recruitment Policy</p>

Introduction

The Charity implemented a Prevent Risk Assessment in 2023 in its education provision, which has now been extended to all activities carried out across St Elizabeth's Centre including Children's Homes, Supported Living Settings, Healthcare provision and Community Hub. This policy outlines the principles and values embedded in our services and the steps that we will take to put these into practice in order to keep all children, young people, adults and staff safe in our care.

The Charity's guiding principle for Safeguarding is '**See It, Stop It, Report It**'.

1. Policy Statement

The Charity takes seriously the specific need to safeguard children, young people, adults and their families from radicalisation and extremist ideology. Keeping children, young people and adults safe from these risks is a key safeguarding matter and forms part of our overall safeguarding strategy, and procedures. We protect those in our care; we approach this in the same way as we safeguard them from other risks. We endeavour to protect them from messages of all violent and non-violent extremism.

The Charity aims to safeguard all staff, students, learners and adults from the threat of extremism and ensure that our support, guidance and curriculums enable them to understand the risks of extremist behaviour. We will embed early intervention through delivering a clearly planned and defined curriculum and in our safeguarding practices.

2. Purpose and Scope

The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 ('the Act') aims to counter terrorism by introducing measures to prevent radicalisation and reduce the risk of people being drawn into terrorism. A key component is the "Prevent duty," which places a statutory obligation on various bodies, including schools and children's homes, to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism". This policy is based on the principles set out in the Act and in other legislation and Government guidance:

- Prevent Strategy 2011
- the Counter Terrorism and Security Act, 2019
- the Children Act 1989 and 2004
- the Education Act 2002 and 2011
- Prevent Duty Guidance: England and Wales (2015 – 2023)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015 – 2023)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (2025).

3. Definitions

Radicalisation is the process of a person legitimising support for, or use of, terrorist violence. A terrorist 'ideology' is a set of beliefs, principals, and objectives that an individual or group attempts to instill in others to radicalize them towards becoming terrorists.

Terrorism is an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person or people, causes damage to property or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system.

Extremism is described in the Prevent Strategy published by the Government in 2011 as the vocal or active opposition to the fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

DSL is the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

British values mean the fundamental values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect, and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs as identified by Ofsted and the Department for Education.

Prevent Lead The Charity's Prevent Lead is the named DSL with specific responsibility for Prevent.

Children, young people and adults: This policy applies to all staff, students, children, young people, learners and adults who live at or attend our Much Hadham site or one of our off-site supported living settings. Where this policy refers to 'children, young people and adults' it includes all these individuals identified here.

4. Roles and responsibilities

All Executive Team members and Senior Leadership Team members must:

- Ensure that staff who report to them have read this policy and understand the procedures
- Ensure that children, young people and adults (including where appropriate parents and carers) are given regular feedback
- Report to the DSL and Prevent Lead, external agencies including Prevent, and local authorities safeguarding teams as appropriate.

All Staff members:

- Must read and adhere to this policy
- Should provide a safe place in which children, young people and adults can debate ideas and discuss controversial ideas
- Must always strive to be aware of potential or actual radicalisation or extremist behaviour and take action when there are concerns
- Must report and record all concerns following the Charity's procedures

- Must support and promote British values in teaching and learning practices and throughout the extended day.

Trustees and Governors:

- Must ensure that the Charity has a Prevent policy and that it is regularly reviewed every two years.
- Must ensure that there is a member of the Executive Team in education that has specific responsibility for Prevent agenda, usually the DSL.
- Must ensure that the effectiveness of the Prevent Policy is regularly monitored and that this is reported to the Trustee Board and Education Committee.

Parents

- Should contact the School, College, Sixth Form, Children's Home or Supported Living management immediately if they know or suspect their child is at risk of radicalisation to work in partnership with the Charity. This applies even if the child has asked for 'secrecy.'
- Should share with the relevant setting any concerns they have that children, young people, and adults are at risk of extremism, even when it does not directly involve their child.

5. Compliance with Prevent Duty

Schools and other specified organisations in the UK must have training for staff to identify and safeguard vulnerable individuals from radicalisation. This duty includes making sure education settings are safe spaces for discussions about terrorism and challenging extremist ideas. If there are concerns, staff should contact the DSL with specific responsibility for Prevent.

5.1 Susceptibility to online radicalisation

The Charity recognises its duty to protect our staff, children, young people and adults from radicalisation into any form of extreme ideology which may lead to the harm of self or others. This is particularly prevalent in relation to exposure to online extremist materials, narratives and recruitment. The Charity will therefore aim to:

- Educate staff, children, young people and adults on the appropriate use of social media and the dangers of downloading and sharing inappropriate material including illegal content under the Act.
- Ensure that staff, children, young people and adults are unable to access any inappropriate internet sites whilst using the Charity's resources, in accordance with the Internet Filtering Policy and Communications, Email and Internet Security Policy.
- Make sure that computers and laptops use appropriate filtering, firewalls, and security settings. This should include a mechanism that alerts a DSL to any concerning internet searches and/or inappropriate internet use.
- Develop the understanding of students and learners through lessons and assemblies on the concepts of radicalisation as part of our safeguarding policy, practice, and commitment.

- Raise awareness in children, young people and adults of the importance of safe use of the internet using all curriculum and pastoral opportunities.
- Ensure staff undertake training and development in the Prevent duty and radicalisation and that they apply this learning holistically in all settings for the children, young people and adults .

5.2 Curriculum

The Charity will ensure that in the School, Sixth Form and College:

- Students and learners are offered a broad and balanced curriculum delivered by skilled teachers that aims to prepare them to live their life to the full, encouraging them to be inquisitive learners who are enriched, understand and become tolerant of differences and diversity, whilst also ensuring that they thrive, feel valued and are not marginalised
- Classroom practices include developing questioning techniques for safe learning and debate building confidence to understand fundamental British values, ensuring freedom of expressions and freedom from threat and understanding moral and human rights
- The curriculum provides opportunities for students and learners to develop critical thinking skills, where appropriate
- Students and learners regularly participate in discussion, with speaking and listening being embedded in all subjects
- The curriculum is expertly developed to meet the complex health and learning needs of all students and learners with safeguarding at the heart of delivery.

5.3 Community

- a) Education: External curriculum activities within the community take place frequently throughout the week in each setting. This also applies to our community hub provision. All community access is risk assessed in advance.

Staff supporting students, learners and adults in the community must:

- Read the risk assessment for the external activity or trip in advance.
- Have completed either National College or LMS online training:
 - Annual Certificate in the Prevent Duty for Independent Schools (National College)
 - Radicalisation (LMS)

These mandatory training courses should be undertaken in conjunction with annual safeguarding and online safety training

- b) Care: On and off-site residential care staff complete mandatory training. Robust risk assessments are carried out and Safeguarding policies and procedures are in place.
- c) Charity Shops: Staff and volunteers undertake mandatory training. Safeguarding and health and safety arrangements. Including risk assessments, include guidance on Prevent.

5.4 Staff Training

To fulfil the requirements of Prevent Duty the Charity will:

- Ensure the DSL undertakes the HCC DSL Prevent 'train the trainer' session and can use this to train all staff (at least once every 3 years) and provide advice and support to other members of staff on protecting children and adults from the risk of radicalisation.
- Encourage staff, governors and Trustees to complete appropriate training including the online Home Office Prevent Duty training.
- Require Prevent Champions to undertake Home Office Prevent Duty training annually.
- Review the Prevent Risk assessment annually and disseminate this to Trustees, Governors, Executive Team, Senior Leaders and Prevent Champions for review and approval, when required.
- Support the DSL to ensure staff are trained to be vigilant in spotting signs of extremist views and behaviours and that they always report anything which may suggest a student, learner, adult, staff member, a parent / carer, a visitor or member of the community is expressing opinions which may cause concern to the DSL. Staff should follow the usual reporting procedures as for any other safeguarding concern as laid out in the Charity's Safeguarding Policies and Procedures.
- Ensure staff understand the importance of monitoring student, learner, and adult absences and promptly address concerns about irregular absence with parents, carers and colleagues.
- Ensure staff and governors are aware of how to identify and respond to risks that the people we care for and who work here are exposed to extreme views.
- Encourage staff to access the teaching and learning resources available from Educate Against Hate where signs of radicalisation are shared, to help them learn about who might be at risk of being radicalised.

5.5 Arrangements for Hiring & Lettings

We do not currently hire or let any facilities within the School, College and Sixth Form. If this changes before the next scheduled policy review as part of our future strategic development an earlier review of this policy will be carried out.

5.6 Prevent Risk Assessment

The DSL is responsible for completing and reviewing a Prevent risk assessment to assess the delivery of the Prevent duty by the Charity to address the risk of children, young people and adults and staff supporting terrorism or becoming a terrorist.

5.7 Partnership and Reporting

The Prevent Risk Assessment sets clear out process for managing referrals in accordance with [prevent-national-referral-form-2025.pdf](#). The DSL will work in partnership with the Local Authority

Programme Manager and the Regional Co-ordinator. If the Child Protection School Liaison Service recommend that a Prevent referral is made, the DSL will complete a Prevent referral.

Following a Prevent referral the Charity will work in partnership with the relevant agencies to seek advice, support and guidance drawing on multi-agency expertise, to support residents and learners at risk. A strong multi-agency partnership across the whole system of help, support and protection, including effective work from all agencies, parents, carers and families is vital. To maintain a person-centred approach within a whole family focus the Charity will work in partnership with parents and carers as far as possible.

5.8 External visitors

The Charity is committed to safeguarding all children, young people and adults in all settings. There is a public right of way over St Elizabeth's site in Much Hadham. Windhill in Bishops Stortford is a domiciliary care setting in the community.

All visitors to these settings must follow the protocols set out, including following the signing about the setting and wearing an identification badge. Staff must challenge any person on the site who is not displaying an identity badge.

Visitors must be accompanied around the site.

Guest speakers, trainers and organisations delivering extra-curricular activities or events to residents, students, learners, adults and staff must comply with the Charity's Safeguarding Policies and will be provided with a leaflet summarizing these upon arrival.

External partners that work with children, young people and adults must be vetted and comply with DBS checks before starting work.

This Prevent Policy is part of our existing safeguarding framework and should be read in conjunction with all other safeguarding policies.

5.9 Review

This Policy will be reviewed **every two years** or more frequently if required.

Date created: September 2025

Version history:

Date	Approved By
<i>17 September 2025</i>	<i>Trustee Board</i>