Implications of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015
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July 2015 - To be reviewed July 2016
1 COUNTER TERRORISM AND SECURITY ACT 2015

The Counter Terrorism and Security Bill, places a duty on specified authorities to have due regard, in the exercise of its functions to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. Preventing people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism also requires challenge to extremist ideas where they are used to legitimise terrorism and are shared by terrorist groups.

2 CONTEST

The Prevent strategy, is part of the UK Governments overall counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST.

Contest has four main objectives:

Pursue – To stop terrorist attacks
Prepare – Where an attack cannot be stopped to mitigate its impact
Protect – To strengthen overall protection against terrorist attacks
Prevent – To stop people becoming terrorists or supporting violent extremists

3 THE PREVENT STRATEGY

The aim of the Prevent strategy is to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. In the Act this has simply been expressed as “prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. The Prevent strategy has three specific strategic objectives:

Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it;

Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support; and

Work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation that we need to address.

Terrorist groups often draw on extremist ideology, developed by extremist organisations; some people who join terrorist groups have previously been members of extremist organisations and have been radicalised by them.

4 DEFINITION OF EXTREMISM

The government has defined extremism in the Prevent strategy as:

“Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces”.
5 HOW PREVENT IMPACTS UPON SCHOOLS (EXCLUDING FE AND HE)

In England about eight million children are educated in some 23,000 publicly-funded and around 2,400 independent schools.

The publicly-funded English school system comprises maintained schools (funded by local authorities), and academies (directly funded by central government)

All publicly-funded schools are required by law to teach a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life. They must also promote community cohesion. Independent schools set their own curriculum but must comply with the Independent Schools Standards, which include an explicit requirement to promote fundamental British values as part of a broader requirement to promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils.

These standards also apply to academies, including free schools, as they are independent schools.

Guidance on promoting fundamental British values in schools is available at:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/promoting-fundamental-british-values-through-smsc

6 DUTY OF CARE

Schools have a duty of care to their pupils and staff. This includes safeguarding them from the risk of being drawn into terrorism. Being drawn into terrorism includes not just violent extremism but also non-violent extremism, which can create an atmosphere conducive to terrorism and can popularise views which terrorists exploit.

Schools should be safe spaces in which children and young people can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and the extremist ideas that are part of the terrorist ideology and learn how to challenge these ideas.

7 NEW DUTIES OF SCHOOL GOVERNORS AND HEAD TEACHERS

In fulfilling the new duty, it is expected that proprietors, governors and head teachers of schools should demonstrate activity in the following areas.

- Risk Assessment
- Working In Partnership
- Staff Training
- Safety Online
- Monitoring and Enforcement
8 RISK ASSESSMENT

At Cardinal Newman Catholic School senior management and governors will, when necessary make an assessment on the risk of any pupils being drawn into terrorism, including support for the extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology. This will be based on an understanding, shared with partners, of the potential risk in the local area.

We are able to demonstrate that we protect our children and young people from being drawn into terrorism by having robust safeguarding policies in place to identify children at risk, and intervening as appropriate (by referring pupils to Channel or Children’s Social Care, for example). Our policies have clear protocols for ensuring that any visiting speakers – whether invited by staff or by pupils themselves – are suitable and appropriately supervised within school.

At Cardinal Newman Catholic School we ensure that fundamental British values are promoted in the delivery of the curriculum and extra-curricular activities and reflected in the general conduct of the school.

9 WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

Cardinal Newman Catholic School works in partnership with the governing bodies and proprietors of all of our feeder schools to ensure that safeguarding arrangements take into account the procedures and practice of the local authority as part of the inter-agency safeguarding procedures set up by the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). Our school child protection policies describe procedures which are in accordance with government guidance and refer to locally agreed inter-agency procedures put in place by the LSCB.

We utilise the guidance and support provided via the ‘Preventing Children and Young People being drawn into Terrorism’ and have strong links with the partner agencies which have produced that advice.

10 STAFF TRAINING

Senior management, governors and staff have received training that gives them the knowledge and confidence to identify children at risk of being drawn into terrorism and challenge extremist ideas which can be used to legitimise terrorism and are shared by terrorist groups. This includes training upon where and how to refer children and young people for further help. This has been done via Workshops To Raise Awareness of Prevent (WRAP) sessions.

We have delivered numerous sessions of staff Prevent Awareness Training and have undertaken joint British Values training for our staff and for staff at our feeder schools.

We have also offered parents the opportunity to engage in WRAP sessions.

11 SAFETY ONLINE

We are acutely aware of how the internet can be used to radicalise young people and our E-safety policies and procedures reflect this. We use appropriate levels of filtering to try to ensure that our children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in school.
MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT

We have made every effort to implement Prevent awareness and British Values into our day to day school safeguarding duties and the curriculum. We are aware that all publicly-funded schools – including academies and free schools – are inspected by the Office for Standards in Education, Children’s Services and Skills (Ofsted) and are subject to intervention if they fail to provide a satisfactory education.

Where failure is very severe the governing body can be replaced or they can be closed. When assessing the effectiveness of schools, Ofsted inspectors already have regard to the school’s approach to keeping pupils safe from the risk of radicalisation and extremism, and to procedures when it is suspected that pupils are being drawn into extremism or terrorist-related activity.

Early education funding regulations have been amended to ensure that providers who fail to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs do not receive funding.

Ofsted’s current inspection framework for early years provision reflects the requirements in the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. For more information please see:


SUPPORT FOR PARENTS

SAFEGUARDING VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS

Safeguarding vulnerable people from radicalisation is no different from safeguarding them from other forms of harm. The following are indicators which may suggest a person is vulnerable to extremist influences or radicalisation. It is NOT an exhaustive list and is NOT a checklist

POTENTIAL INDICATORS OF RADICALISATION OR EXTREMISM

- Viewing extreme material online when not for educational purposes
- Communicating with extreme groups or individuals
- Seeking to recruit others to an extremist ideology
- Voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives
- Use of extremist or ‘hate’ terms to exclude others or to promote violence
- Possession of violent extremist literature or advocating violent actions
- Graffiti, symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images
- Lack of understanding of religious or political views
- Becoming secretive, withdrawn or increasingly isolated
- Appearance drastically changing
- Parental concerns re behavioural changes or changes in friendship and social groups
- New addictions or new obsessions
- Suffering bereavement or loss
- Struggling to form healthy relationships
15 REFERRALS

WHAT TO DO IF I HAVE A CONCERN?

Coventry as a City and partnership has been supporting vulnerable individuals through Prevent for several years. Since 2009 we have had a multi-agency group called ‘Channel’ providing tailor made interventions to support vulnerable individuals and to challenge the extremist ideology. Channel is totally integrated into the city wide Common Assessment Framework. As from Autumn 2015 Coventry will also have a specific Prevent Co-ordinator - Geoff Thomas, funded by the Government and based within the Community Safety Team who will be able to advise and assist with any individual cases which we may refer.

Any concerns can be reported to the Safeguarding Officers, Prevent Leads or Governors at Cardinal Newman Catholic School by contacting the school on 02476 332382 and asking for any of the below named persons or via email.

16 SAFEGUARDING TEAM, LINK GOVERNORS AND WEST MIDLANDS COUNTER TERRORISM UNIT

DESIGNATED CHILD PROTECTION OFFICER

Mr James Hodgson (Deputy Head Teacher)
James.Hodgson@cardinalnewman.coventry.sch.uk

DEPUTY DESIGNATED CHILD PROTECTION OFFICERS

Mrs Emma FRENCH (Deputy Head Teacher)
emma.french@cardinalnewman.coventry.sch.uk

Mrs Christine BEVIS (SENCo)
christine.bevis@cardinalnewman.coventry.sch.uk

Mrs Debbie GALVIN (Behaviour Support Manager)
debbie.galvin@cardinalnewman.coventry.sch.uk

PREVENT LEADS

Mrs Sarah BOYLE (Assistant Head Teacher)
sarah.boyle@cardinalnewman.coventry.sch.uk

Mr Paul WELLS (Mentoring Team Leader)
Paul.wells@cardinalnewman.coventry.sch.uk

NOMINATED GOVERNOR FOR CHILD PROTECTION

Mr Lyndon DAVIES (School Governor)
Lyndon.davies@cardinalnewman.coventry.sch.uk
WE are members of the West Midlands Counter Terrorist Unit and are dedicated to working on the PREVENT strand of CONTEST strategy. Prevent Officers are uniformed officers who are based at Coventry Central Police Station and have built close links with the community, partner agencies and the local policing teams. They have excellent experience of understanding vulnerabilities and providing support and advice to individuals and communities.

To make a referral or for any Prevent related advice please contact the Coventry Prevent Officers:

Police Sergeant Jas BAGHRIA
Email: j.baghria@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk
Tel: 07825 112 417

Police Constable Harry PADAM
Email: h.padam@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk
Tel: 07500 992 124