

Understanding the Prevent Duty For schools

Prepared by Victvs Ltd
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The UK government has recently placed a legal duty on schools to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

In order to fulfil this legal duty schools must understand what is expected of them. They must be aware of the practical steps that they can take to implement effective safeguarding systems, and must develop a good understanding of the nature of these rapidly evolving issues.

Below is an outline of the key aspects of the duty that school leadership teams need to be aware of.

Risk Assessment - Schools must demonstrate that they:

- Are protecting children and young people from being drawn into terrorism.
- Consider the level of risk to identify the most appropriate referral.
- Have protocols for ensuring that any visiting speakers are suitable and are appropriately supervised.

Staff Training - Staff should receive training that gives them:

- **Knowledge** to identify children at risk of being drawn into terrorism.
- **Skills** to challenge extremist ideology.
- **Awareness** of how to refer children and young people for further help.

Knowledge

- Staff should understand what radicalisation means and why people may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism as a consequence of it.
- Staff must know what measures are available to prevent people from becoming drawn into terrorism and how to challenge the extremist ideology that can be associated with it.

Leadership - Those in leadership positions should:

- Establish mechanisms for understanding the risk of radicalisation.
- Ensure that staff understand the issues and how to approach them.
- Communicate and promote the importance of the duty.
- Ensure that staff implement the duty effectively.

Working in partnership

- Safeguarding arrangements should take into account the policies and procedures of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). Schools must demonstrate evidence of productive co-operation with local Prevent co-ordinators, the Police, and local authorities.

IT policies

- Children are expected to be safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet and other IT facilities in school.

Monitoring and enforcement

- When assessing schools, Ofsted inspectors will consider the school's approach to keeping pupils safe from the dangers of radicalisation and extremism and response mechanisms.

At Victvs we specialise in providing holistic solutions to risk management and safeguarding against extremism and radicalisation. With our innovative training packages, and expert consultancy services, we can assist you in ensuring that your school meets or exceeds the standards set out in the Prevent Duty.

For more details about our services, please visit www.victvs.co.uk.
Or contact us directly on +44 (0) 1600 891 548.

