Holywell Village First School
Preventing Radicalisation Policy

1 Purpose

1.1 This Safeguarding: Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy is part of our commitment to keeping children safe. Since the Education and Inspections Act 2006, schools have a duty to promote community cohesion. Over the last few years, global events have led to a growth of extremist viewpoints, including advocacy of violent extremism.

1.2 Schools have an important part to play in both educating children and young people about extremism and recognising when pupils start to become radicalised. The updated Prevent duty guidance (31st December 2023) reminds schools that *'The ... duty does not confer new functions on any specified authority. The term 'due regard' as used in the CTSA 2015 means that the authorities should place an appropriate amount of weight on* ***the need to prevent people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism when they consider all the other factors relevant to how they carry out their usual functions'***

1.3 Safeguarding children from all risks of harm, including those children in the EYFS is an important part of a school's work and protecting them from extremism is one aspect of that.
The duty to prevent children and young people being radicalised is set out in the following documents:

- Counter-Terrorism & Security Act (2015, as amended)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (September 2025)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (December 2023)
- Prevent Duty Guidance: for England and Wales (September 2023 with implementation from 31st December 2023
- Channel guidance
- Key documents to support those people, with safeguarding responsibilities, working in education settings can be found by following this link to The Prevent duty: an introduction for those with safeguarding responsibilities

1.4 non-statutory guidance

- Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools: Departmental advice for maintained schools (DfE 2014, as amended)

▪ Improving the spiritual, moral, social, and cultural (SMSC) development of pupils: supplementary information (DfE 2014, as amended)
▪ How social media is used to encourage travel to Syria and Iraq (Home Office)

1.5 Definitions
A useful glossary of terms used in the relevant guidance can be found here.
These include the following:

Radicalisation - is the process of a person legitimising support for, or use of, terrorist violence

Terrorism - is set out in the Terrorism Act 2000 (TACT 2000). In summary this defines terrorism as 'The use or threat of serious violence against a person or serious damage to property where that action is:

- designed to influence the government or an international governmental organisation or to intimidate the public or a section of the public; and
- for the purpose of advancing a political, religious, racial, or ideological cause.'

Online radicalisation – is set out as situations where the internet is believed to have played a role in a person's radicalisation pathway. The internet can play two broad roles in radicalisation (offering mechanisms often unavailable to people offline). These are: exposure to extremist and terrorist content and socialisation within 'likeminded' networks. Often this is facilitated by highly permissive environments online.

Vulnerability - Describes the condition of being in need of special care, support, or protection because of age, disability, risk of abuse or neglect

Specified authority - refers to the people, organisations and institutions listed in Schedule 6 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 to whom the Prevent duty at section 26 of the Act applies. It is their responsibility to ensure that the provisions of this guidance are carried out.

Schools and educational institutions are specified authorities

2 Ethos

2.1 We ensure that through our school vision, aims, rules, diverse curriculum, and teaching, we promote tolerance and respect for all cultures, faiths, and lifestyles.

2.2 The governing body will also ensure that this ethos is reflected and implemented effectively through school policy and practice and that there is an effective suite of safeguarding policies in place to safeguard and promote pupils' welfare. We have a duty to prepare our pupils for life in modern Britain and to keep them safe. Everyone at the school

has the right to learn and work in safety. We do not tolerate bullying of any kind and will challenge derogatory language and behaviour towards others

3 Roles and Responsibilities

3.1 Role of the Governing Body
It is the role of the Governing Body to;

- ensure that the school meets its statutory duties with regard to preventing radicalisation.
- ensure that this policy is understood and effectively implemented by staff throughout the school;
- ensure that the DSL undergoes appropriate Prevent duty training which is refreshed at least every three years; and
- ensure that the school's Prevent policies and procedures and general safeguarding arrangements take into account the policies and procedures of Northumberland Children's and Adult's Safeguarding Partnership (NCASP)

3.2 Role of the Headteacher
It is the role of the Headteacher to:

- ensure that the school and its staff respond to preventing radicalisation on a day-to-day basis
- ensure that the school's curriculum addresses the issues involved in radicalisation
- ensure that staff conduct is consistent with preventing radicalisation

3.3 Role of Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

It is the role of the designated safeguarding lead to:

- ensure that staff understand the issues of radicalisation, that they are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns
- receive safeguarding concerns about pupils who may be vulnerable to the risk of radicalisation or are showing signs of radicalisation
- make referrals to appropriate agencies with regard to concerns about radicalisation
- liaise with partners, including the local authority and the police
- report to the Local Governing Body on these matters

3.4 Role of staff
It is the role of staff to:

- understand the issues of radicalisation, that they are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns.

3.5 School will conduct an annual review of safeguarding (S175), which includes the school's compliance with its Prevent Duty.

4 Curriculum

We are committed to ensuring that our pupils are offered a broad and balanced curriculum that aims to prepare them for life in modern Britain. We encourage our pupils to be inquisitive learners who are open to new experiences and are tolerant of others. Our values support the development of the whole child as a reflective learner within a safe respectful learning environment. Teaching the school's core values alongside the fundamental British values supports quality teaching and learning, whilst making a positive contribution to the development of a fair, just and civil society.

5 Internet Safety -

The internet provides children and young people with access to a wide range of content, some of which is harmful. Extremists use the internet, including social media, to share their messages. The filtering systems used at our school blocks inappropriate content, including extremist content. Where staff, pupils or visitors find unblocked extremist content they must report it to a senior member of staff. We are aware that children and young people have access to unfiltered internet when using their mobile phones; staff are alert to the need for vigilance when pupils are using their phones. Year 4 pupils who are allowed to walk to school/home unaccompanied will need to have a mobile phone. Phones should be handed in at the school office if bought into school. The e-safety and internet user policy refer to preventing radicalisation and related extremist content. Pupils and staff know how to report internet content that is inappropriate or of concern.

6 Staff Training

Staff will be given training to help them understand the issues of radicalisation, so that they are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer to their concerns. This information also forms part of annual safeguarding training.

7 Safer Recruitment

We ensure that the staff we appoint to the school are suitable, our recruitment procedures are rigorous, and we follow the statutory guidance published in part 3 of Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024. Vetting and barring checks are undertaken on relevant people, including the Local Governing Body and volunteers.

8 Visitors

Visitors to the school are made aware of our safeguarding and child protection policies on arrival at the school and are given information about what to do if they are concerned about any aspect of child welfare. We undertake due diligence to ensure that visiting speakers are appropriate. Speakers will be supervised at all times and will not be allowed

to speak to pupils without a member of staff being present. Staff must not invite speakers into school without first obtaining permission from the Headteacher.

9 Signs of vulnerability

There are no known definitive indicators that a young person is vulnerable to radicalisation, but there are number of signs that together increase the risk. Signs of vulnerability include:

- underachievement
- being in possession of extremist literature
- poverty
- social exclusion
- traumatic events
- global or national events
- religious conversion
- change in behaviour
- extremist influences
- conflict with family over lifestyle
- confused identity
- victim or witness to race or hate crimes
- rejection by peers, family, social groups, or faith

10 Recognising Extremism

Early indicators of radicalisation or extremism may include:

- showing sympathy for extremist causes
- glorifying violence, especially to other faiths or cultures
- making remarks or comments about being at extremist events or rallies outside school
- evidence of possessing illegal or extremist literature
- advocating messages similar to illegal organisations or other extremist groups
- out of character changes in dress, behaviour, and peer relationships (there are also very powerful narratives, programmes, and networks that young people can come across online so involvement with particular groups may not be apparent)
- secretive behaviour
- online searches or sharing extremist messages or social profiles
- intolerance of difference, including faith, culture, gender, race, or sexuality
- graffiti, artwork or writing that displays extremist themes
- attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others
- verbalising anti-Western or anti-British views
- advocating violence towards others

11 Referral Process

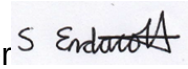
Staff and visitors to the school must refer all concerns about pupils who show signs of vulnerability or radicalisation to the Designated Safeguarding Lead using the usual methods for reporting other safeguarding concerns.

When there are significant concerns about a pupil, the Designated Safeguarding Lead, in liaison with the Headteacher, will make a referral to the appropriate body. See appendices 1 and 2 for pathway and referral form.

12 Contacts

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	Samantha Endacott samantha.endacott@holywerll.northumberland.sch.uk
Designated Safeguarding Lead (Deputy DSL)	Emma-Marie reed emma-marie.reed@holywell.northumberland.sch.uk
Any other staff trained to DSL level	na
Chair of Governors	Angela Hall angela.hall3@school360.co.uk
Safeguarding Governor	Angela Hall angela.hall3@school360.co.uk
Our school follows the safeguarding protocols and procedures of our safeguarding children partnership	North and South of Tyne Safeguarding Children Partnership Procedures Manual https://www.proceduresonline.com/northumberlandcs/index.html
Northumberland Prevent Coordinator	Chris Grice prevent@northumberland.gov.uk
Northumberland Prevent Lead - Children's Services	Neil O'Toole Neil.O'Toole@northumberland.gov.uk
Northumberland Prevent Lead – Adult Services	Heather MacKenzie heather.mackenzie@northumberland.gov.uk
Schools' Safeguarding Team	Justine Clephane Justine.clephane@northumberland.gov.uk
Special Branch	specialbranch@northumbria.pnn.police.uk
OneCall	01670 536400 Children's Triage - childrentriage@northumberland.gov.uk
Adult Triage	safeguarding.triage@northumbria-healthcare.nhs.uk
Where there is a risk of immediate serious harm to a child a referral should be made to children's social care immediately by the DSL.	O1670 536400
If a child is in immediate danger	Local Police Emergency 999 Local Police Non-emergency 101

National contacts	• NSPCC 24/7 Helpline/textline Tel: 0808 800 5000/88858 Email: help@nspcc.org.uk • The Lucy Faithfull Foundation (LFF) Tel: 0800 1000 900 Email: help@stopitnow.org.uk • www.parentsprotect.co.uk • ACT Early Support Line on 0800 011 3764 • National Bullying Helpline Tel: 0845 22 55 787

Signed Headteacher 

Chair of Committee:_____

Date: 29th September 2026
This policy will be reviewed Autumn 2027

Appendix 1 Referral Pathway

Northumberland PREVENT Pathway

Northumberland County Council

PREVENT is about working together to safeguard and support people who might be vulnerable to radicalisation.

If a person is being radicalised, their day-to-day behaviour may become increasingly centred around an extremist ideology, group or cause. Some of the signs of radicalisation could be:

- spend increasing amounts of time talking to people with extreme views (this includes online and offline communication)
- changing their style of dress or personal appearance
- losing interest in friends and activities that are not associated with the extremist ideology, group or cause
- possessing material or symbols associated with an extreme cause
- trying to recruit others to join the cause

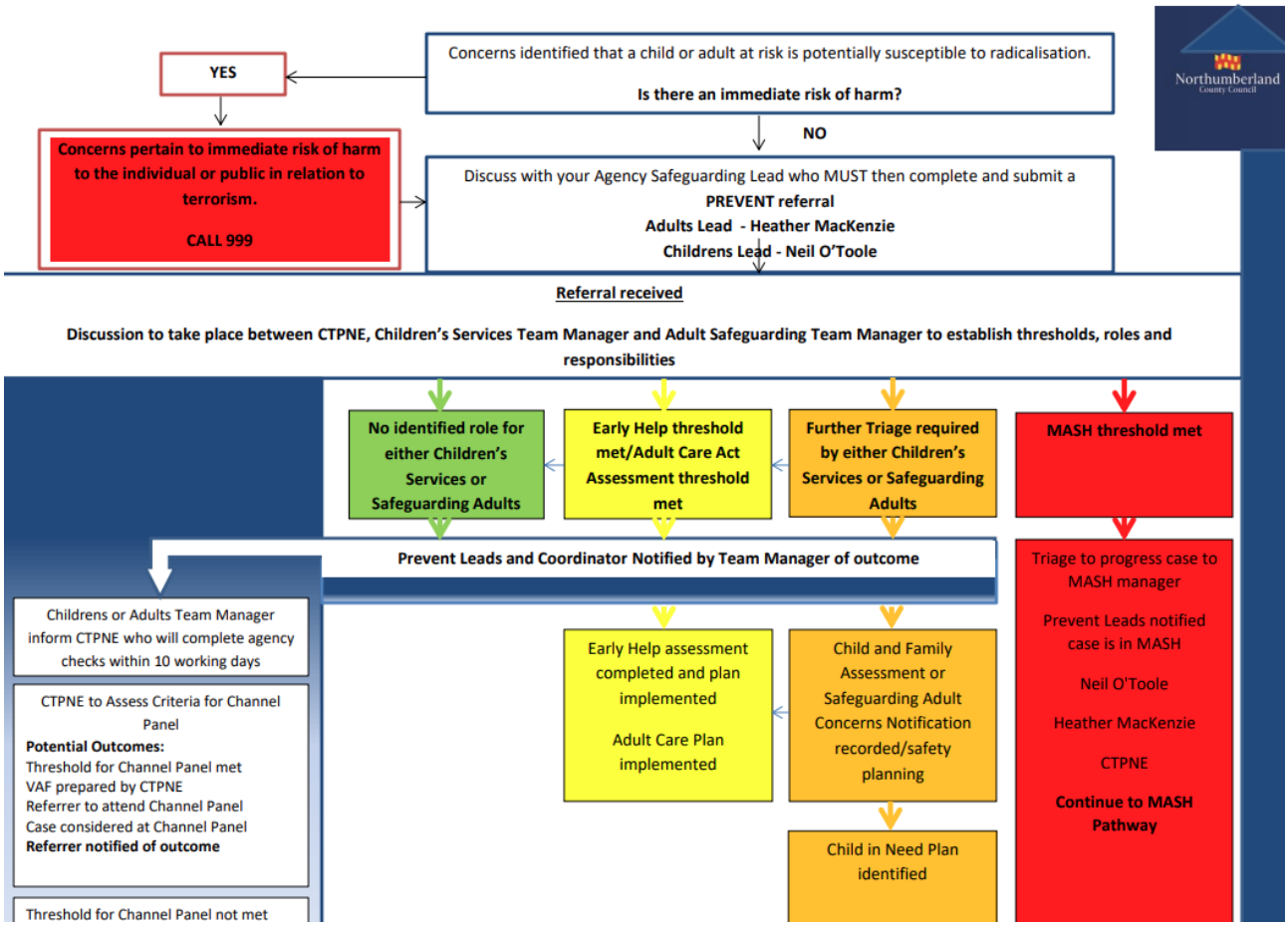
I'm concerned someone is at risk of radicalisation. What should I do?

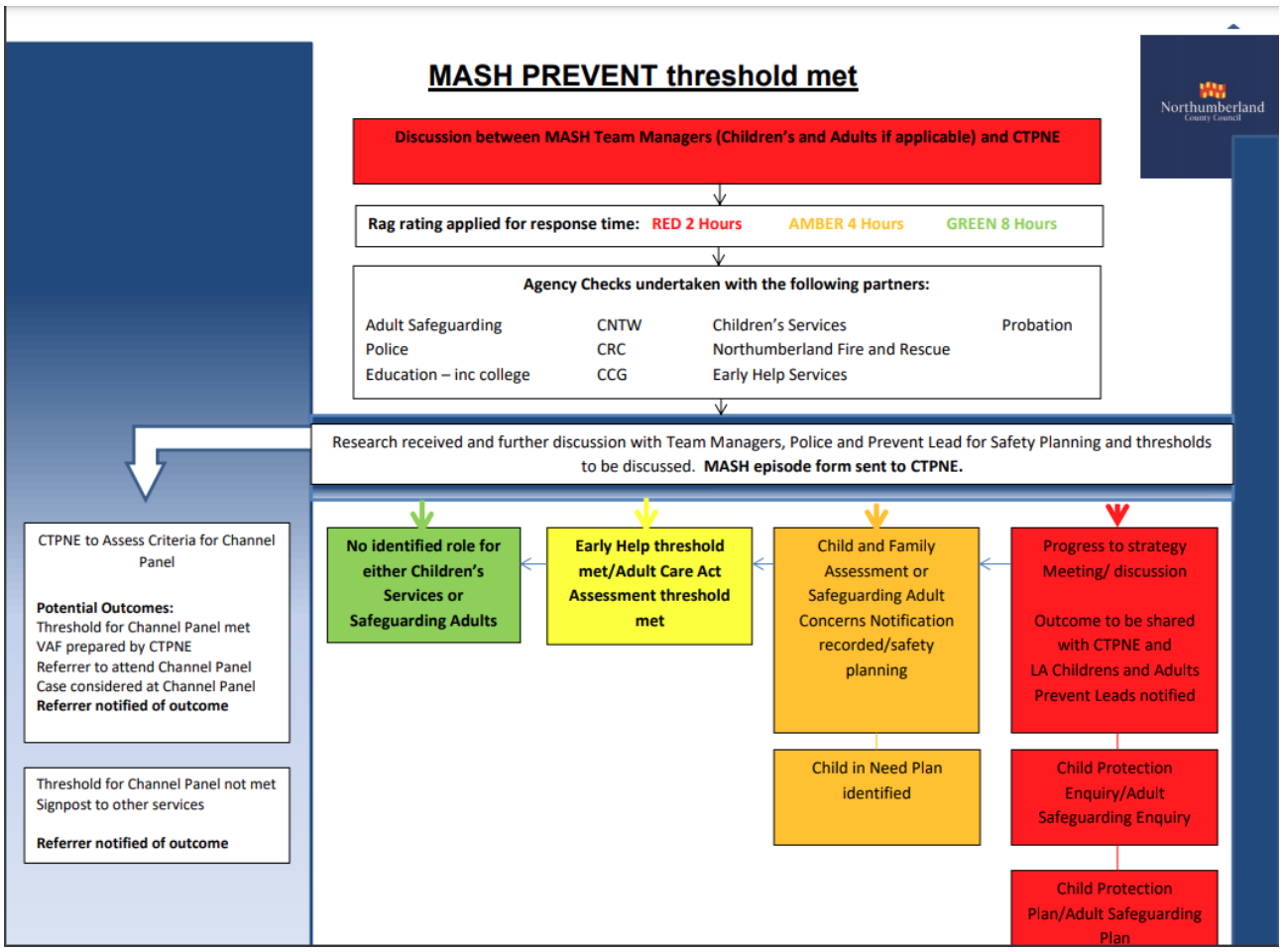
- Report your concerns to the local authority that the person you're worried about lives. You can find the contact numbers and where to get in touch below.

- Remember: PREVENT does not criminalise those who are referred. We aim to safeguard and help those at risk.

Key Contacts

Prevent Mailbox - prevent@northumberland.gov.uk
PREVENT referral Form - Northumberland Prevent Referral Form
Chris Grice - Prevent Lead Strategic Community Safety Chris.Grice@northumberland.gov.uk
Neil O'Toole - Prevent Lead Children's Services neil.o'toole@northumberland.gov.uk
Heather MacKenzie - Prevent Lead Adult Services Heather.MacKenzie@northumberland.gov.uk
Counter Terrorism Policing North East (CTPNE) – fimunorth@ctpne.police.uk
Onecall - 01670 536400
Children's Triage - childrentriage@northumberland.gov.uk
Adult Triage - safeguardingreferrals@northumberland.gov.uk


Northumberland County Council
Concerns identified that a child or adult at risk is potentially susceptible to radicalisation.
Is there an immediate risk of harm?
YES
Concerns pertain to immediate risk of harm to the individual or public in relation to terrorism.
CALL 999
NO
Discuss with your Agency Safeguarding Lead who MUST then complete and submit a
PREVENT referral
Adults Lead - Heather MacKenzie
Childrens Lead - Neil O'Toole
Referral received
Discussion to take place between CTPNE, Children's Services Team Manager and Adult Safeguarding Team Manager to establish thresholds, roles and responsibilities
No identified role for either Children's Services or Safeguarding Adults
Early Help threshold met/Adult Care Act Assessment threshold met
Further Triage required by either Children's Services or Safeguarding Adults
MASH threshold met
Prevent Leads and Coordinator Notified by Team Manager of outcome
Childrens or Adults Team Manager inform CTPNE who will complete agency checks within 10 working days
CTPNE to Assess Criteria for Channel Panel
Potential Outcomes:
Threshold for Channel Panel met
VAF prepared by CTPNE
Referrer to attend Channel Panel
Case considered at Channel Panel
Referrer notified of outcome
Threshold for Channel Panel not met
Early Help assessment completed and plan implemented
Adult Care Plan implemented
Child and Family Assessment or Safeguarding Adult Concerns Notification recorded/safety planning
Child in Need Plan identified
Triage to progress case to MASH manager
Prevent Leads notified case is in MASH
Neil O'Toole
Heather MacKenzie
CTPNE
Continue to MASH Pathway



Appendix 2 Referral Form

Home Office

PREVENT REFERRAL FORM

COUNTER TERRORISM POLICING

REFERRAL PROCESS

By sending this form you consent for it to arrive with both your dedicated Local Authority safeguarding team & Prevent policing team for a joint assessment. Wherever possible we aim to give you feedback on your referral, please be aware, however, that this is not always possible due to data-protection & other case sensitivities.

Once you have completed this form, please email it to: **prevent@northumberland.gov.uk and safeguardingreferrals@northumberland.gov.uk**

If you have any questions whilst filling in the form, please call:

INDIVIDUAL'S BIOGRAPHICAL & CONTACT DETAILS

Forename(s):	First Name(s)
Surname:	Last Name
Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY):	D.O.B.
Approx. Age (if DoB unknown):	Please Enter
Gender:	Please Describe
Known Address(es):	Identify which address is the Individual's current residence
Nationality / Citizenship:	Stated nationality / citizenship documentation (if any)
Immigration / Asylum Status:	Immigration status? Refugee status? Asylum claimant? Please describe.
Primary Language:	Does the Individual speak / understand English? What is the Individual's first language?
Contact Number(s):	Telephone Number(s)
Email Address(es):	Email Address(es)
Any Other Family Details:	Family makeup? Who lives with the Individual? Anything relevant.

DESCRIBE CONCERNS

In as much detail as possible, please describe the specific concern(s) relevant to Prevent.

Please Describe

FOR EXAMPLE:

- How / why did the Individual come to your organisation's notice in this instance?
- Does it involve a specific event? What happened? Is it a combination of factors? Describe them.
- Has the Individual discussed personal travel plans to a warzone or countries with similar concerns? Where? When? How?
- Does the Individual have contact with groups or individuals that cause you concern? Who? Why are they concerning? How frequent is this contact?
- Is there something about the Individual's mobile phone, internet or social media use that is worrying to you? What exactly? How do you have access to this information?
- Has the Individual expressed a desire to cause physical harm, or threatened anyone with violence? Who? When? Can you remember what was said / expressed exactly?
- Has the Individual shown a concerning interest in hate crimes, or extremists, or terrorism? Consider *any* extremist ideology, group or cause, as well as support for "school-shooters" or public-massacres, or murders of public figures.
- Please describe any other concerns you may have that are not mentioned here.

COMPLEX NEEDS

Is there anything in the Individual's life that you think might be affecting their wellbeing or that might be making them vulnerable in any sense?

Please Describe

FOR EXAMPLE:

- Victim of crime, abuse or bullying.
- Work, financial or housing problems.
- Citizenship, asylum or immigration issues.
- Personal problems, emotional difficulties, relationship problems, family issues, ongoing court proceedings.
- On probation; any erratic, violent, self-destructive or risky behaviours, or alcohol / drug misuse or dependency.
- Expressed feelings of injustice or grievance involving any racial, religious or political issue, or even conspiracy theories.
- Educational issues, developmental or behavioural difficulties, mental ill health (see **Safeguarding Considerations** below).
- Please describe any other need or potential vulnerability you think may be present but which is not mentioned here.

OTHER INFORMATION

Please provide any further information you think may be relevant, e.g. social media details, military service number, other agencies or professionals working with the Individual, etc..

Please Describe

OFFICIAL - SENSITIVE

DATA PROTECTION ACT & POLICE INFORMATION MANAGEMENT POLICIES APPLY