

Safeguarding The Prevent Duty



The Counter Terrorism and Security Act places a duty on early years providers 'to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism'

The Prevent Duty June 2015

What is the threat?

Currently in the UK the biggest threat and highest priority is Islamist related extremism. Although there is still a risk of people, including those who take their whole families, travelling to Syria the landscape has changed and extremists are being encouraged to carry out attacks on UK soil. Also of growing concern is the far right element of extremism. This is something that is gaining momentum and must also be considered within safeguarding arenas.

What is radicalisation?

Radicalisation is a process, similar to grooming, by which someone comes to adopt extreme political, social or religious ideals that can lead to violence (terrorism). Even very young children may be at risk of radicalisation if they are being exposed to certain views and propaganda within the home, so early years providers have a statutory duty to support them and inform the relevant agencies.

What is your responsibility?

The Early Years Foundation Stage framework already supports providers in Promoting Fundamental British values, which challenge negative attitudes and help build children's resilience. Clear and robust safeguarding policies and procedures should include how you assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorism or affected by extremism, and what you would do if this happened. Ensure all staff understand their responsibilities and feel confident in challenging extreme views and behaviours and know when and how to report this.

TASK

Discuss as a team:

- 1) What sort of behaviour or dialogue from a child or family member might give you cause for concern?
- 2) How would your setting demonstrate that they are protecting children from radicalisation and harmful views and influences?
- 3) How would you report any concerns you may have?
- 4) When working with the children, how do you challenge negative attitudes and stereotypes?

To access the government's 'Prevent duty guidance for England and Wales 2015' go to
www.gov.uk/government/publications/protecting-children-from-radicalisation-the-prevent-duty

Leicestershire Safeguarding Children's Partnership Board Training Priority-
Risk Outside the home/ Contextual safeguarding