

POPPETS PRE-SCHOOL **PREVENT DUTY POLICY**

From 1 July 2015 all schools, registered early years childcare providers and registered later years childcare providers (referred to in this advice as "childcare providers") are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, in the exercise of their functions, to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism". This duty is known as the Prevent Duty. It applies to a wide range of public-facing bodies.

What is Radicalism?

Radicalism refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism. Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is seen as part of the Poppets Pre-School's wider safeguarding duties, and is similar in nature to protecting children from other forms of harm and abuse. During the process of radicalisation it is possible to intervene to prevent vulnerable people being radicalised. There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to an extremist ideology. It can happen in many different ways and settings. Specific background factors may contribute to vulnerability which are often combined with specific influences such as family, friends or online, and with specific needs for which an extremist or terrorist group may appear to provide an answer. The internet and the use of social media in particular has become a major factor in the radicalisation of young people.

What is Extremism?

Extremism is 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, whether in this country or overseas.

Aims

At Poppets Pre-School it is essential that staff are able to identify children and parents who may be vulnerable to radicalisation, and know what to do when they are identified. Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation should be seen as part of the pre-schools wider safeguarding duties, and is similar in nature to protecting children from other harms (e.g. neglect, sexual exploitation), whether these come from within their family or are the product of outside influences. All staff are instructed to challenge extremist and radical views.

Risk Assessment

As with managing other safeguarding risks, staff should be alert to changes in children's and parent's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Staff should use their professional judgement in identifying children / parents who might be at risk of radicalisation.

Procedure for Reporting Concerns

If a member of staff has a concern about a particular child, they should follow the normal safeguarding procedures, including discussing with the pre-school's designated safeguarding lead, who will, where deemed necessary, report to SPA (Kingston's Social Services).

You can also contact your local police force or dial 101 (the non-emergency number). They can talk to you in confidence about your concerns and help you gain access to support and advice. Also, they can advise if this would be a case for Channel (a programme that focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism.). The Department for Education has dedicated a telephone helpline (020 7340 7264) to enable staff to raise concerns relating to extremism directly.

This policy was adopted on:

Signed on behalf of the Pre-School: (Owner)

Date for review: August 2026