

Hungerhill School: Preventing Radicalisation Policy



Responsible Committee/Individual	Local Governing Board
Author	Lead Deputy Headteacher Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Target Audience	All Stakeholders
Date Policy Agreed	Summer 2026
Review Date	Summer 2027
Headteacher Signature	
Local Governing Board Representative Signature	



Introduction

Hungerhill School is committed to providing a secure environment for students, where students feel safe and are kept safe. All adults at Hungerhill School recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility irrespective of the role they undertake or whether their role has direct contact or responsibility for students or not.

'Safeguarding vulnerable people from radicalisation is no different from safeguarding them from other forms of harm' (Home Office, Prevent Strategy)

This Preventing Radicalisation Policy is part of our commitment to keeping our students 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.

Schools have an important part to play in both educating young people about extremism and recognising when students start to become radicalised. In March 2015, new statutory duties were placed on schools by the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015, which means they must work to prevent children being drawn into extremism.

Safeguarding children and adults from all risks of harm is an important part of a school's work and protecting them from extremism is one aspect of this.

Aims and Principles

The main aims of this policy are to ensure that staff are fully engaged in being vigilant about radicalisation; that they overcome professional disbelief that such issues will not happen here and ensure that we work alongside other professional bodies and agencies to ensure that our students are safe from harm. At Hungerhill School we ensure that through our school vision, values, relationships and teaching we promote tolerance and respect for all cultures, faiths and lifestyles.

The principle objectives are that:

- Students are encouraged to adopt and live out our Core Values. These complement the key "British Values" of tolerance and respect.
- Students are helped to understand the importance of democracy and freedom of speech, through the PHSE, Citizenship and RE curriculum and through our student leadership programme.
- Students are taught how to keep themselves safe in school and how to use the internet safely, through our PSHE curriculum and assemblies.
- Students are encouraged to learn about and be tolerant of all faiths, religions and cultures. We do this through the RE and PSHE curriculum, Faith Tours, various guest speakers and exploration of the Protected Characteristics in assemblies and form time.

- Students' wellbeing, confidence and resilience are promoted through our planned curriculum, the promotion of the Hungerhill way, leadership opportunities, our enrichment/extra-curricular programme as well as home learning.
- Students are supported in making good choices from a very young age within the Trust, so they understand the impact and consequences of their actions on others.
- Governors, teachers, teaching assistants and non-teaching staff undertake yearly training and are able to demonstrate an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism are and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- All staff are informed of updates to the Keeping Children Safe in Education Act 2025. Governors have oversight for checking all students and staff are safe from online and real world threats, with ICT security checks and a robust PREVENT risk assessment in place.

Hungerhill School's duty

At Hungerhill School we recognise our duty to ensure that through our school vision, values, rules, diverse curriculum and teaching we promote tolerance and respect for all cultures, faiths and lifestyles. The governing body also ensures that this ethos is reflected and implemented effectively in the school's policy and practice and that there are effective risk assessments in place to safeguard and promote students' welfare. We have a duty to prepare our children for life in modern Britain and to keep them safe. Students who attend our school have the right to learn in safety. We do not tolerate bullying of any kind and will challenge derogatory language and behaviour towards others.

Staff behaviour

Within Hungerhill School, all staff are expected to uphold and promote the British values: democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Statutory Duties

The duty to prevent children and young people being radicalised is set out in the following documents which have been used to formulate this policy.

- Counter Terrorism and Security Act (2015)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (2025)
- Revised Prevent Duty Guidance (2023)
- Working together to Safeguard Children (2026)

Doncaster Children's Safeguarding Partnership On-Line Safeguarding Procedures and Doncaster Channel Panel

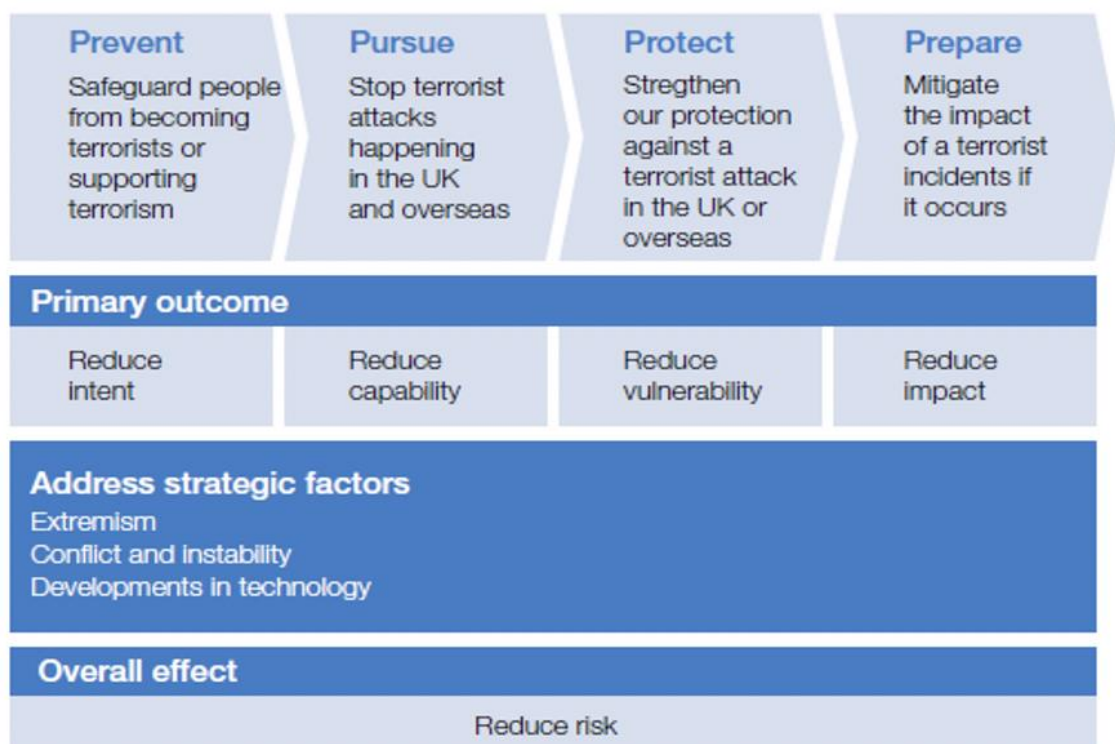
Government Approaches

The Office for Security and Counter Terrorism works to counter the threat from terrorism and their work is detailed in the counter terrorism strategy CONTEST.

This strategy is based on four areas of work:

- Prevent - To stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism
- Pursue - To stop terrorist attacks
- Protect - To strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack
- Prepare - To mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack

CONTEST's Risk Reduction Model



The role of schools is outlined more specifically in the DCSF document 'Learning together to be safe: a toolkit to help schools contribute to the prevention of violent extremism.' This document can be found at the following location: https://dera.ioe.ac.uk/8396/1/DCSF-Learning%20Together_bkmk.pdf

Primarily, the focus is PREVENTION. This policy should be read alongside the school's Safeguarding, Child Protection, Equal Opportunities, E-Safety and Anti-bullying policies.

Non-Statutory Guidance

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

Definitions and Indications

Radicalisation is defined by the UK government as the process where a person comes to support terrorism or other forms of extremism. This process involves individuals developing extreme views that promote violence, hatred, or intolerance, leading them to support or become involved in terrorist activities or ideologies aiming to undermine fundamental rights, freedoms, or the democratic system.

The definition of Extremism updated in 2024 draws on the important work of Dame Sara Khan and Sir Mark Rowley as set out in the 2021 Operating with Impunity report which demonstrated that it is possible to protect freedom of expression whilst countering some of the most dangerous extremist activity taking place in Britain. This new definition does not seek to stymie free speech or freedom of expression. There are concerns that those expressing conservative views will be classified as extremist. This is not the case.

Extremism is the promotion or advancement of an ideology based on violence, hatred or intolerance, that aims to:

1. negate or destroy the fundamental rights and freedoms of others; or
2. undermine, overturn or replace the UK's system of liberal parliamentary democracy and democratic rights; or
3. intentionally create a permissive environment for others to achieve the results in (1) or (2).

Roles and Responsibilities

Role of the governing body

It is the role of the governing body to ensure that the school meets its statutory duties to prevent radicalisation. The Governing Body has a nominated person (see Appendix 1,) who will liaise with the Headteacher and other staff about issues to do with protecting children and adults from radicalisation.

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
- ensure that information is available to stakeholders to refer to/raise awareness (see appendix 2/3/4)
- ensure referrals are made to LADO if concerns relate to teacher/staff conduct
- review the PREVENT risk assessment and have strategic oversight for any referrals to the South Yorkshire Police Prevent Team and the Doncaster Channel Panel
- ensure all staff understand reporting duties, onsite and offsite.

Role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead

It is the role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead to:

- ensure that staff, young people and families understand the issues of radicalisation, are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns.

Encourage the use of the ACT app, located on the HM Government website:

If you see or hear something suspicious, trust your instincts and **ACT**.

Report it in confidence at [www.gov.uk/ACT](https://www.gov.uk/act). Your actions could save lives.

- receive safeguarding concerns about children and young people 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 PREVENT leads, early help, DCST and South Yorkshire Prevent Team.
- report to the governing body on these matters.

Role of Staff

It is the role of staff to understand the issues of radicalisation and know how to refer their concerns. They should have confidence to challenge radicalisation and extremist views when they are encountered in the classroom or academy environment. Staff is supported with this through yearly training.

The role of the curriculum

The curriculum at Hungerhill School promotes respect, tolerance and diversity. Children are encouraged to express themselves through discussions, debates and consultations. The RE, PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education), Citizenship and SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) provision is embedded across the curriculum and underpins the ethos of the school. Children learn about all major faiths, visit places of worship and are taught about how to stay safe when using the internet.

Online 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 in our school is Smoothwall UTM firewall and web filtering system. Smoothwall is a market leader for digital security, especially in education. Smoothwall detects the users who are signed in on the school network and will apply the relevant web filtering policy based on whether they are staff/student. Below is information provided direct from Smoothwall.

Hungerhill School also use a live action monitoring system called Securus. Securus is installed on every student machine in school and runs silently in the background and monitors all activity on the machine. It will take snapshots of any activity that would flag as a safeguarding concern and alerts the designated members of staff (currently ICT Support who would then raise it with the DSL).

Where staff, children 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 and staff are alert to the need for vigilance when students are using their phones. The Acceptable Use of ICT Policy (AUP) refers to preventing radicalisation and related extremist content. Students and staff are asked to sign the AUP annually to confirm they have understood what is acceptable. Students and staff know how to report internet content that is inappropriate or of concern.

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 (2025). Vetting and barring checks are undertaken on relevant people, including governors and volunteers. Our staff code of conduct covers personal views and expectations for behaviour inside and outside school.

Visitors

Visitors to Hungerhill 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. Relevant vetting checks are undertaken on all visitors and they are provided with the school safeguarding leaflet. 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 children without a member of staff being present.

Signs of vulnerability

There are no known definitive indicators that a young person is vulnerable to radicalisation, but there are a 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

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 (but 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, art work 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

Preventing Extremism

We will engage with parents and families as we are in a key position to spot signs of radicalisation and we will assist and advise those families who do raise concerns and point them in the direction of support mechanisms i.e. the Local Authority, Police and/or the Channel Programme. We will provide a link, via our school website, to the Doncaster DSCP website which provides information on radicalisation for children and young people, their parents/ carers and professionals.

<https://dscp.org.uk>

As with other safeguarding risks, staff will be alert to changes in children and young people's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Staff will use their judgement in identifying children and young people who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately which may include making a referral to the Channel Program through the Crime and Community Safety Theme Manager.

The Channel is a programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. It provides a mechanism for schools to make referrals if they are concerned that an individual might be vulnerable to radicalisation. Referrals to the Channel panel in Doncaster are via the Crime and Community Safety Theme Manager 01302 737469 or email: Rachel.Long@doncaster.gcsx.gov.uk

More information on Prevent and Channel is contained in Annex B of Keeping children Safe in Education (2025) and <https://dscp.org.uk/professionals/prevent>

Procedures for Referral

Staff are reminded to suspend any professional belief that instances of radicalisation 'could not happen here' and to refer any concerns through the appropriate channels (currently via the Designated Safeguarding Lead through CPOMS).

When there are significant concerns about a student, the Designated Safeguarding Lead, in liaison with the Headteacher, will make a referral to the LA Prevent lead – see appendix 1.

Policy Review

The Preventing Radicalisation policy statement will be reviewed in line with Trust policy updates..

Appendix 1 – Key People

Name	Role	Photograph
Miss Michelle Harwood	Designated Safeguarding Lead	
Mrs Angie Walker	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	
Miss Carlene Holden	Governor with Specific responsibility for Safeguarding	
Rachael Long	Crime and Community Safety Theme Manager for Doncaster rachael.long@doncaster.gov.uk	

Appendix 2

Key Contacts

South Yorkshire Police Prevent Team:

Business Hours:

Out of Hours - Emergency 999

Out of Hours - Non-emergency 101

Prevent Staff operate via the 101 service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year

Prevent internal email: Prevent_Inbox@southyorks.pnn.police.uk

Additional Resources / References:

Report Extremist Material: <https://www.gov.uk/report-terrorism>

Preventing Terrorism: www.ltai.info

UK Anti-Terrorist Hotline Number: 0800 789 321

Appendix 3

The diagram below shows the different stages within the Channel process, for information:

