

King Athelstan Primary School

Anti-Radicalisation Policy

PREVENTING EXTREMISM AND RADICALISATION POLICY



King Athelstan Primary School - Inspiring Excellence

We believe in the relentless pursuit of excellence to achieve high standards.

We are driven to inspire our school community to be aspirational, ambitious and to "dream big."

We empower children with choices which prepare them for a life of opportunity.

We teach children that hard work delivers success; we encourage children to take risks and ask brilliant questions in order to inspire a love and passion for learning.

We teach children to think.

We put children's happiness and welfare at the heart of everything we do.

We value friendship, kindness and respect.

We celebrate the excellence in each individual.

We expect families to work with us to form a strong team around every child.

We teach children to be good citizens.

We are proud of our school: Come as you are and leave us great.

Responsibility: Headteacher		Governors committee: FGB	
Status: Not statutory. Website		Review Cycle: Annual	
Date reviewed: Sept 2026	Date agreed: Sept 2026	Next review: Sept 2027	

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1. Policy Statement

King Athelstan Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of every child. The school recognises that children and young people may be vulnerable to a range of safeguarding risks, including exposure to extremist ideas, radicalisation and terrorism. It understands that safeguarding vulnerable people from radicalisation is no different from safeguarding them from other forms of harm.

The school fulfils its responsibilities under the Prevent Duty as part of its wider safeguarding arrangements. Prevent concerns will be handled sensitively and proportionately. A concern about radicalisation is a safeguarding concern and not an accusation of terrorism or extremism.

There is no single pathway to radicalisation and no single profile of a person who may be susceptible. Concerns will therefore be considered in the context of the individual child, their age, development, circumstances, vulnerabilities and protective factors.

The school will not make assumptions about a child based on religion, race, ethnicity, nationality, culture, family background or lawful political or religious beliefs.

This policy should be read alongside the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, Online Safety Policy, Behaviour Policy, Equality Policy, Staff Code of Conduct/Handbook, Whistleblowing Policy, Acceptable Use / ICT Policy, curriculum policies, Local Authority guidelines on safer recruitment and procedures for managing allegations against adults.

2. Aims and Objectives

The aims of this policy are to:

- Protect pupils from being drawn into terrorism or extremist activity.
- Ensure Prevent is incorporated into existing safeguarding arrangements.
- Ensure staff understand how to recognise and report concerns.
- Promote an inclusive school culture in which difference is respected.
- Develop pupils' resilience, critical thinking and ability to recognise manipulation.
- Promote democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.
- Address online risks, including exposure to extremist and harmful content.
- Ensure concerns are assessed individually and proportionately.
- Work effectively with Kingston safeguarding, Prevent and police partners.
- Ensure records, referrals and information sharing are managed appropriately.
- Ensure Prevent activity does not result in discrimination or stereotyping.

King Athelstan Primary School's anti-radicalisation policy is intended to provide a framework for dealing with issues relating to vulnerability, radicalisation and exposure to extreme views, both far left and far right. It clearly sets out how the school will deal with such incidents and identifies how the curriculum and ethos underpins our actions.

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.

Prevent school leads: Emily Newton and Denise Ramkissoon are the Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL). Naomi Ahearn is the deputy DSL. Jess Castellino is the Designated Safeguarding Governor.

3. Legal and Statutory Framework

This policy has regard to the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026, Prevent Duty Guidance: England and Wales (2023), Education Act 2002, Children Act 1989 and 2004, Equality Act 2010, Human Rights Act 1998, Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR, Working Together to Safeguard Children, and relevant Kingston and Richmond safeguarding procedures.

The Prevent Duty requires specified authorities, including schools, to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. Prevent should be integrated into existing safeguarding training, policies and risk assessments.

4. Definitions

Radicalisation is the process of a person legitimizing support for, or use of, terrorist violence. *(UK Government)*

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). (UK Government)

Staff should not describe pupils as extremists simply because they express controversial, unpopular or age-inappropriate opinions.

Prevent: one strand of the UK's counter-terrorism strategy, including addressing ideological causes of terrorism and supporting people susceptible to radicalisation.

Channel: a voluntary, multi-agency safeguarding process designed to provide support to individuals who may be susceptible to radicalisation.

5. Local Kingston Arrangements

The school operates within the safeguarding arrangements of the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames. Children's services are delivered by Achieving for Children (AfC). Kingston and Richmond operate the Kingston and Richmond Safeguarding Children Partnership (KRSCP).

Kingston Prevent Team

Email: prevent@kingston.gov.uk

Metropolitan Police Prevent Team

Email: preventreferrals@met.pnn.police.uk

Achieving for Children – Single Point of Access (SPA)

Telephone: 020 8547 5008

General AfC telephone: 020 8547 5000

Emergency: 999 where there is an immediate danger or emergency.

The DSL will use current Kingston/AfC referral arrangements and local safeguarding procedures. Prevent concerns should be managed through the school's normal safeguarding process, with specialist advice or referral sought where appropriate. Local contact details will be checked regularly by the DSL.

6. Roles and Responsibilities

Governing Body: ensure compliance with the Prevent Duty, effective safeguarding arrangements, appropriate training, oversight and annual review.

Headteacher: oversee implementation, resources, training, safeguarding culture and external-agency engagement.

Designated Safeguarding Lead: manage Prevent-related safeguarding concerns; maintain awareness of local risks; ensure risk assessment; record and assess concerns; seek advice; make referrals where appropriate; ensure lawful information sharing; and maintain records.

All Staff: remain alert to safeguarding concerns, report promptly to the DSL, record factually, complete training, promote inclusion and respectful behaviour, and follow online-safety and professional-boundary procedures. Staff must not investigate Prevent concerns independently.

7. Identifying Possible Vulnerability

There is no single indicator of radicalisation. Possible indicators may include significant and unexplained changes in behaviour or style of dress; increasing isolation; fixation on or possession of extremist or terrorist material; repeated extremist or hateful language; attempts to access or distribute extremist material; expressions of support for terrorism or violence; increasing hostility towards particular groups; evidence of online grooming or manipulation; concerning relationships with individuals or groups; significant distress associated with identity or belonging; loss of interest in other friends and activities, or other behaviour causing a safeguarding professional concern.

These indicators do not prove radicalisation. Particular care will be taken with primary-aged pupils, who may repeat words or ideas without understanding them or explore difficult subjects through play, questions or experimentation. Developmental stage and context must always be considered.

8. Online Radicalisation

The school recognises risks through social media, video-sharing platforms, online games, messaging applications, websites, forums, livestreaming, search engines and emerging technologies.

The school will use appropriate filtering and monitoring, age-appropriate online-safety education, digital literacy, critical evaluation of online information, reporting mechanisms, appropriate supervision and safeguarding responses. Technical filtering is only one part of online safeguarding; education, relationships, supervision and early intervention are also essential.

9. Reporting a Concern

Staff should report a concern to the DSL or Deputy DSL as soon as possible, make a factual written record, record what they have seen, heard or been told, avoid unnecessary questioning, and not promise confidentiality.

Staff must not investigate the concern independently. If there is immediate danger, emergency procedures and 999 must be used.

10. Assessment and Referral

The DSL will consider the nature and seriousness of the concern, age and developmental stage, circumstances, existing safeguarding concerns, vulnerabilities, protective factors, family and contextual information, online activity, evidence of grooming or exploitation, possible innocent explanations, and information from other professionals.

The DSL may seek advice from Kingston Prevent, Achieving for Children, KRSCP partners, children's social care, Metropolitan Police, health professionals or other relevant agencies. A Prevent referral is not an accusation; it is a safeguarding mechanism for obtaining advice and, where appropriate, support.

11. Channel

A Prevent referral may lead to consideration for Channel. Channel is voluntary and provides support to people who may be vulnerable to radicalisation. The school will cooperate with appropriate multi-agency processes and continue to safeguard and support the child regardless of whether a Channel referral is accepted.

12. Information Sharing

Information will be shared in accordance with KCSIE 2026, UK GDPR, the Data Protection Act 2018, safeguarding legislation, local procedures and Prevent guidance. Information will be shared lawfully, proportionately and on a need-to-know basis. Staff must not promise absolute confidentiality where information may need to be shared to protect a child or prevent harm.

13. Working with Parents and Carers

Parents and carers are important safeguarding partners. Where appropriate and safe, the school will involve parents/carers when concerns arise. Parents/carers may not be informed immediately where doing so could increase risk to the child, compromise an investigation, increase the risk of radicalisation or exploitation, or otherwise be contrary to the child's best interests.

14. Curriculum and Prevention

The school will promote democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect, tolerance of different faiths and beliefs, respectful disagreement, critical thinking, identifying misinformation, online safety, recognising manipulation, healthy relationships, understanding prejudice and discrimination, and knowing how to seek help.

The school will provide safe, structured and age-appropriate opportunities to discuss difficult subjects. Lawful opinions will not be suppressed simply because they are unpopular or controversial. Staff will maintain political impartiality.

15. Equality, Diversity and Non-Discrimination

Prevent safeguarding must never be used as a basis for discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief, race, ethnicity, nationality, culture, disability, sex, sexual orientation, family circumstances or any other protected characteristic.

A pupil's religion, ethnicity or identity is not in itself an indicator of radicalisation. The school will challenge racism, Islamophobia, antisemitism, religious intolerance, xenophobia and other forms of hatred and discrimination.

16. Visitors and External Speakers

The school will undertake appropriate safeguarding checks and due diligence before external organisations or speakers engage with pupils. Visitors must comply with safeguarding arrangements, political-impartiality requirements, age-appropriate content expectations and supervision arrangements. The school may decline or cancel an engagement where safeguarding concerns cannot be satisfactorily managed.

17. Staff Training

All staff will receive safeguarding training appropriate to their role. Prevent awareness will form part of safeguarding training. Training will cover the Prevent Duty, radicalisation and vulnerability, online radicalisation, local arrangements, recognising concerns, reporting, avoiding stereotypes, information sharing and referral procedures. The DSL and relevant senior staff will undertake additional training appropriate to their responsibilities.

18. Prevent Risk Assessment

The school will maintain a proportionate Prevent risk assessment within wider safeguarding arrangements. It will consider local risk and threat information, pupil age and developmental needs, online risks, premises, curriculum, visitors, staff training, filtering and monitoring, safeguarding reporting arrangements, information sharing and protective factors.

The assessment will be reviewed at least annually and following significant incidents, changes in guidance, changes in local risk or lessons from safeguarding practice.

19. Record Keeping

Prevent-related safeguarding concerns will be recorded securely. Records should include the date, factual information, source, action taken, advice sought, decisions and rationale, referrals, outcomes where known and follow-up actions. Records will be managed under the school's safeguarding and data-protection procedures.

20. Staff Conduct and Whistleblowing

Staff must maintain professional boundaries, follow the Staff Code of Conduct, avoid expressing extremist or discriminatory views to pupils, comply with social-media and acceptable-use requirements, report concerns about colleagues through appropriate safeguarding or whistleblowing procedures, and report concerns involving other adults in accordance with safeguarding procedures.

21. Monitoring and Governance

The Headteacher and DSL will monitor the effectiveness of this policy. The Governing Body will receive appropriate assurance regarding Prevent training, safeguarding training, risk assessment, concerns and referrals, online safety, curriculum provision, visitor arrangements and partnership working. Confidential safeguarding information will only be shared with governors/trustees where lawful and appropriate.

22. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed at least annually as part of the overall Safeguarding and Child Protection policy and procedures review, and following changes to legislation, KCSIE, Prevent guidance, Kingston safeguarding arrangements, significant safeguarding incidents, changes in local risk or recommendations arising from safeguarding reviews. The DSL will ensure local contact details remain current.

23. Key Contacts - Kingston upon Thames

Designated Safeguarding Leads: Emily Newton, Denise Ramkissoon

Deputy DSL: Naomi Ahearn

Headteacher: Emily Newton

Kingston Prevent Team: prevent@kingston.gov.uk

Metropolitan Police Prevent Referrals: preventreferrals@met.pnn.police.uk

Achieving for Children - Single Point of Access: 020 8547 5008

General AfC telephone: 020 8547 5000

Kingston and Richmond Safeguarding Children Partnership (KRSCP): follow current local safeguarding procedures.

Emergency: 999