**Prevent:**

Schools and colleges have a vital role to play in protecting pupils from the risks of extremism and radicalisation, a role which will be underpinned by the new duty in the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 **“to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”,** (the “Prevent duty”) due to come into force on 1 July 2015.

Even where the extent of extremism in schools may be perceived to be low – it has a high impact. Keeping children safe from these risks is a safeguarding matter and should be approached in the same way as safeguarding children from other risks.

Schools and colleges can support young people by providing a safe environment for discussing controversial issues; equipping them with the knowledge, skills and ability to think for themselves, to challenge and to debate; to express their views but also to appreciate the impact their views can have on others. Schools also have a key role in identifying concerns at an early stage.

Prevention work for students may include the RE curriculum, PSHE work, anti-bullying and hate crime prevention; consideration can also be given re: suitability of outside speakers.

**Channel**

Channel is a partnership approach to support individuals vulnerable to recruitment by violent extremists.

Channel coordinators provide expert advice and guidance around issues of violent extremism to safeguarding boards, senior managers and front line professionals. They assist frontline professionals to assess the nature and extent of vulnerability, need and risk around violent extremism; providing an appropriate support package to divert them away from potential threat at an early stage.



**Ofsted Inspection**

Ofsted are aware that they need to look at what should be asked at inspections and suitable training will be provided for inspectors, including on monitoring schools’ compliance with the Prevent duty. The DfE have advised that they appreciate that things won’t happen straight away, and that Ofsted should be supportive of schools on these issues.

[Inspecting safeguarding in maintained schools and academies - Publications - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/inspecting-safeguarding-in-maintained-schools-and-academies-briefing-for-section-5-inspections)

**Safeguarding Policy**

A statement regarding Extremism and radicalisation should be contained within the school’s safeguarding policy.

An exemplar statement is below:

 *Wimboldsley Primary School* seeks to protect children and young people against the messages of all violent extremism including, but not restricted to, those linked to Islamist ideology, or to Far Right / Neo Nazi / White Supremacist ideology, Irish Nationalist and Loyalist paramilitary groups, and extremist Animal Rights movements.

 The current threat from terrorism in the United Kingdom may include the exploitation of vulnerable people, to involve them in terrorism or in activity in support of terrorism. The normalisation of extreme views may also make children and young people vulnerable to future manipulation and exploitation.

 *Wimboldsley Primary School* is clear that this exploitation and radicalisation should be viewed as a safeguarding concern.

 Prevention work and reductions of risks will include the RE curriculum, SEND policy, assembly policy, the use of school premises by external agencies, integration of pupils by gender and SEN, anti-bullying policy and other issues specific to the school’s profile, community and philosophy”

April 2015

Contact Details: Scie@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk Tel No: 01606 275039

**Sources of information**

Police online campaign: “Prevent Tragedies” <http://www.preventtragedies.co.uk/>

Families against Stress and Trauma: ‘Families Matter’ <http://www.familiesmatter.org.uk/>

Channel E-Learning Package: <http://course.ncalt.com/Channel_General_Awareness>
*This is a good way of providing staff with information; there are case studies to help users understand the process of identifying and referring vulnerable individuals, in addition to providing them with support*



**What to do if you have concerns**

If you have concerns about a child who may be vulnerable please contact:

**Cheshire West and Chester Consultation Service** on **01606 275099**

**Further contact details:**

Prevent Cheshire – Emma Hart 01606 362147 Emma.hart@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Cheshire Channel – Lesley Price 01606 365986 Lesley.price@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Bookings for presentations – Lorraine Parker 01606 362121 Lorraine.parker@cheshire.pnn.police.uk