



## **SMITHDON HIGH SCHOOL**

# **WHOLE SCHOOL POLICY FOR PREVENTING EXTREMISM & RADICALISATION**

(Based on the Norfolk County Council model policy issued  
April 2015)

**Re-adopted by Local Governing Body  
March 2017**

**Reviewed: March 2019**

**Next Review Date: March 2021**

## Background

The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act, which received Royal Assent on 12 February 2015, places a duty on specified authorities, including schools and colleges, to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism (“the Prevent duty”). The Prevent duty reinforces existing duties placed upon educational establishments for keeping children safe by:

- Ensuring a broad and balanced curriculum is in place to promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of **pupils**.
- Assessing the risk of **pupils** being drawn into extremist views.
- Ensuring safeguarding arrangements by working in partnership with local authorities, police and communities.
- Training staff to provide them with the knowledge and ability to identify **pupils** who may be vulnerable to radicalisation.
- Keeping **pupils** safe online by using effective filtering and usage policies.

## Policy Consultation & Review

This policy is available on our school website and in hardcopy from the school office on request.

The policy is provided to all staff and should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy
- Equality Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- E-Safety Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Whistle-blowing Policy

This policy will be reviewed in full by the Governing Body on an annual basis as part of the review of the Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy.

This policy was last reviewed and agreed by the Governing Body in March 2017. The latest review by R Bazeley-Smith, the Designated Safeguarding Lead, in March 2019.

Signature: ..... Date: .....  
(Headteacher)

Signature: ..... Date: .....  
(Chair of Governors)

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## 1. PURPOSE AND AIMS

1.1 Smithdon High School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. We recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation and extremism is no different to safeguarding against any other vulnerability today. At Smithdon high school, we will ensure that: Our school fully recognises the contribution it can make to promoting the welfare of children and protecting them from harm.

1.2 This policy sets out our strategies and procedures to protect vulnerable pupils from being radicalised or exposed to extremist views. The elements of our policy are prevention, protection and support.

1.3 At Smithdon High School, we will ensure that:

- All staff, volunteers and governors, have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism is and why we need to be vigilant in school.
- Through training, staff, volunteers and governors have an understanding of what radicalisation and extremism is, why we need to be vigilant in school and how to respond when concerns arise.
- Through our curriculum, and in personal development sessions we will promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils.
- Parents/carers and pupils will know that the school has policies in place to keep pupils safe from harm and that the school regularly reviews these systems to ensure they are appropriate and effective.

1.4 This policy applies to all pupils, staff, parents, governors, volunteers and visitors.

1.5 A glossary of related terms and indicators of vulnerability to extremism can be found in Appendices 1 and 2 of this policy.

1.6 Appendix 4 is the referral process for Norfolk for any Channel referral

1.7 Appendix 5 is a practitioner guide to radicalisation and extremism

## 2. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1 It is the responsibility of **every** member of staff, volunteer and regular visitor to our school to ensure that they carry out the requirements of this policy and, always, work in a way which will safeguard and promote the welfare of all of pupils at this school.

2.2 The Governing Body of Smithdon High School is accountable for ensuring the effectiveness of this policy and our compliance with it. The Governing Body will ensure that:

- This policy is reviewed annually alongside our Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy.
- All staff undertake appropriate training which equips them with the skills to identify and respond appropriately to concerns regarding extremism and radicalisation.
- The Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) will assess the risk of pupils being drawn into extremist views. The risk assessment may include

consideration of the school's curriculum, the use of school premises by external agencies and any other local issues relating to the school community.

- A broad curriculum is in place to deliver the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils.
- Appropriate safeguarding arrangements are in place by working in partnership with other agencies and communities as required.
- There are systems in place for keeping pupils safe from extremist material when accessing the internet in our school by using effective filtering and usage policies.

2.3 The DSL will carry out their role in accordance with the responsibilities outlined in Annex B of *'Keeping Children Safe in Education'* (2018). As part of this responsibility, the DSL will act as the point of contact within our school for any concerns relating to radicalisation and extremism.

2.4 The DSL at Smithdon High School will make referrals in accordance with Norfolk Channel procedures to the CADS (Children's Advice and Duty Service) where appropriate and will represent our school at Channel meetings as required.

2.5 The DSL is responsible for ensuring that all staff members and volunteers are aware of our policy and the procedures they need to follow. They will ensure that all staff have received appropriate training. One example of this is the briefing sheet provided on induction on Prevent and radicalisation (Appendix 6).

### **3. TRAINING**

3.1 Through training, we will ensure that all our staff are made fully aware of the threats, risks and vulnerabilities linked to radicalisation. Staff will be able to identify children at risk of being drawn into extremism and develop the confidence to challenge extremist ideas. All staff will understand how we can provide support to ensure that our pupils are resilient and supported to resist involvement in radical or extreme activities.

3.2 The DSL and alternative DSL's have received Prevent training. The DSL will act as the point of contact within our school for any concerns relating to radicalisation and extremism.

3.3 Our governing body will also undertake appropriate training to ensure they are able to carry out their duty to safeguard all the children at our school.

### **4. THE ROLE OF THE CURRICULUM**

4.1 At Smithdon High School we will provide pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum and promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of our pupils through all lessons, personal development sessions, assemblies and super learning days. Pupils will be encouraged to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance.

4.2 Through our curriculum we will aim to:

- Enable pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence;
- Enable pupils to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England;
- Encourage pupils to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative and understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely;
- Enable pupils to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England;
- Ensure further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling pupils to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures;
- Encourage respect for other people;
- Encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.

4.3 We will achieve this by using a curriculum which is broad and balanced and encourages pupils to discuss these issues in personal development sessions, super learning days, assemblies and in subject areas.

## **5. VISITORS AND THE USE OF SCHOOL PREMISES**

5.1 At Smithdon High School we recognise the role that external agencies and speakers can play in enhancing the learning experiences of our pupils. Where we use external agencies and individuals in this way, we will positively vet them to ensure that their messages are consistent with, and not in opposition to, the school's values and ethos.

5.2 Our school will assess the suitability and effectiveness of input from external agencies or individuals to ensure that:

- Any messages communicated to stud pupils ents are consistent with the ethos of the school and do not marginalise any communities, groups or individuals;
- Any messages do not seek to glorify criminal activity or violent extremism or seek to radicalise pupils through extreme or narrow views of faith, religion or culture or other ideologies;
- Activities are properly embedded in the curriculum and clearly mapped to schemes of work to avoid contradictory messages or duplication;
- Activities are matched to the needs of pupils;
- Activities are carefully evaluated by schools to ensure that they are effective.

5.3 Any guest speakers or external agencies will be provided with a copy of our safeguarding procedures on arrival at the school and will be appropriately supervised at all times.

5.4 When an agreement is made to allow non-school groups or organisations to use the school premises, appropriate checks will be made before agreeing the contract. Usage will be monitored and in the event of any behaviour which is not in keeping with the Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation Policy, the school will contact the police and terminate the arrangement.

## 6. PROCEDURES FOR MANAGING CONCERNS

6.1 Smithdon High School adheres to the procedures which have been agreed locally through the Norfolk Children's Safeguarding Board for safeguarding individuals vulnerable to extremism and radicalisation. Please also refer to our Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy for further information about our wider safeguarding responsibilities.

6.2 We recognise that staff at our school play a particularly important role as they are able to identify concerns early and provide help for children to prevent concerns from escalating. **All staff are advised to maintain an attitude of 'it could happen here' where safeguarding is concerned, and this includes vulnerability to radicalisation.**

6.3 At all times we will work in partnership and endeavour to establish effective working relationships with parents, carers and colleagues from other agencies in line with Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015).

6.4 The DSL should be used as a first point of contact any safeguarding concerns in our school. Any member of staff or visitor to the school who receives a disclosure of or suspects that a child is at risk of radicalisation must report it immediately to the DSL or, if unavailable, to the alternate designated person. In the absence of either of the above, the matter should be brought to the attention of the most senior member of staff available. This should be done immediately, in line with the *'Keeping Children Safe in Education'* (2018).

6.5 Following receipt of any information raising concern about vulnerability to radicalisation, the DSL will consider what action to take and will follow the Norfolk Channel procedures by making a referral via CADS as required. All information and actions taken, including the reasons for any decisions made, will be fully documented and recorded via CPOMS.

6.6 All Channel referrals will be made using the referral form which can be found at Appendix 3 and the process is illustrated in Appendix 4 flow chart.

6.7 If an allegation is made or information is received about an adult who works in our setting which indicates that they may be unsuitable to work with children because of concerns relating to extremism and radicalisation, the member of staff receiving the information should inform the Headteacher or Chair of Governors immediately in line with the procedures outlined in our Safeguarding Policy and the Whistleblowing Policy.

## 7. RELEVANT POLICIES

7.1 To underpin the values and ethos of our school and our intention to ensure that pupils at our school are appropriately safeguarded, the following policies should be read in conjunction with this policy:

- Safeguarding incorporating Child Protection Policy
- Anti-Bullying
- Equalities
- E-safety
- Health and Safety including site security

- Use of School Premises/Lettings
- Whistle-blowing

## 8. STATUTORY FRAMEWORK

8.1 This policy has been devised in accordance with the following legislation and local and national guidance:

- Norfolk Procedures: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/policy-performance-and-partnerships/partnerships/crime-and-disorder-partnerships/community-safety-partnership/preventing-radicalisation>
- Norfolk Channel Procedures updated: <http://www.norfolklscb.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Channel-Norfolk-SOP-April-2016.doc> and [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/380595/SMS C Guidance Maintained Schools.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/380595/SMS_C_Guidance_Maintained_Schools.pdf)
- The Counter-Terrorism & Security Act 2015 summary: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/counter-terrorism-and-security-bill>
- Norfolk Prevent guidance for schools: <http://www.schools.norfolk.gov.uk/download/NCC177766/>
- Educate against hate: <https://educateagainsthate.com/>
- Prevent duty for schools form DfE: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protecting-children-from-radicalisation-the-prevent-duty>
- 'Prevent Duty Guidance: for England & Wales', HM Government (2015, updated 23 March 2016): <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>
- '[Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools: Departmental advice for maintained schools](#)' DfE (2014)
- '[Keeping Children Safe in Education](#)' DfE (2018)
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2> DfE (2018)
- '[Information Sharing: Advice for practitioners](#)', DfE (March 2015)

## **Appendix 1: Glossary of Terms**

**'Extremism'** is defined in the 2011 Prevent Strategy as 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.

**'Non-violent extremism'** is extremism, as defined above, which is not accompanied by violence.

**'Prevention'** in the context of the Prevent duty means reducing or eliminating the risk of individuals becoming involved in terrorism. Prevent includes but is not confined to the identification and referral of those at risk of being drawn into terrorism into appropriate interventions. These interventions aim to divert vulnerable people from radicalisation.

**'Radicalisation'** refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

The current UK definition of **'terrorism'** is given in the Terrorism Act 2000 (TACT 2000). In summary this defines terrorism as an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people; causes serious damage to property; or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause.

**'Terrorist-related offences'** are those (such as murder) which are not offences in terrorist legislation, but which are judged to be committed in relation to terrorism.

**'Vulnerability'** describes the condition of being capable of being injured; difficult to defend; open to moral or ideological attack. Within Prevent, the word describes factors and characteristics associated with being susceptible to radicalisation.

**MASH** Multi-agency safeguarding hub

**CADS** Children's Advice and Duty Service

## Appendix 2: Warning Signs/Indicators of Concern

There is no such thing as a “typical extremist”: those who become involved in extremist actions come from a range of backgrounds and experiences, and most individuals, even those who hold radical views, do not become involved in violent extremist activity.

Pupils may become susceptible to radicalisation through a range of social, personal and environmental factors. It is vital that school staff are able to recognise those vulnerabilities. However, this list is not exhaustive, nor does it mean that all young people experiencing the above are at risk of radicalisation for the purposes of violent extremism.

Factors which may make pupils more vulnerable may include:

- **Identity Crisis:** the student is distanced from their cultural/religious heritage and experiences discomfort about their place in society.
- **Personal Crisis:** the student may be experiencing family tensions; a sense of isolation; low self-esteem; they may have dissociated from their existing friendship group and become involved with a new and different group of friends; they may be searching for answers to questions about identity, faith and belonging.
- **Personal Circumstances:** migration; local community tensions and events affecting the student’s country or region of origin may contribute to a sense of grievance that is triggered by personal experience of racism or discrimination or aspects of Government policy.
- **Unmet Aspirations:** the student may have perceptions of injustice; a feeling of failure; rejection of civic life.
- **Experiences of Criminality:** involvement with criminal groups, imprisonment, poor resettlement or reintegration.
- **Special Educational Need:** pupils may experience difficulties with social interaction, empathy with others, understanding the consequences of their actions and awareness of the motivations of others.

Pupils who are vulnerable to radicalisation may also be experiencing:

- Substance and alcohol misuse
- Peer pressure
- Influence from older people or via the Internet
- Bullying
- Domestic violence
- Race/hate crime

### **Behaviours which may indicate a child is at risk of being radicalised or exposed to extremist views could include:**

- Being in contact with extremist recruiters and/or spending increasing time in the company of other suspected extremists;
- Loss of interest in other friends and activities not associated with the extremist ideology, group or cause;
- Pupils accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites;

- Possessing or accessing materials or symbols associated with an extremist cause;
- Using extremist narratives and a global ideology to explain personal disadvantage;
- Pupils voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives, this may include justifying the use of violence to solve societal issues;
- Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images;
- Significant changes to appearance and/or behaviour increasingly centred on an extremist ideology, group or cause;
- Changing their style of dress or personal appearance to accord with the group;
- Attempts to recruit others to the group/cause;
- Using insulting to derogatory names for another group;
- Increase in prejudice-related incidents committed by that person – these may include:
  - physical or verbal assault
  - provocative behaviour
  - damage to property
  - derogatory name calling
  - possession of prejudice-related materials
  - prejudice related ridicule or name calling
  - inappropriate forms of address
  - refusal to co-operate
  - attempts to recruit to prejudice-related organisations
  - condoning or supporting violence towards others.
- Parental reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance;
- Partner schools, local authority services, and police reports of issues affecting pupils in other schools.

## Person Vulnerable to Radicalisation (VTR) Referral Form

Apr 2016



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### Section 1: Person referring to complete (please expand boxes as required)

<b>Subject's full Name</b> (include all known inc alias/maiden if relevant)	
<b>Date and place of birth</b>	
<b>Full Address</b>	
<b>Spouse/Partner/Parents' names/D.O.B</b>	
<b>Children/Siblings names/D.O.B</b>	

<b>Reason for Referral</b>

<b>Background and risk issues - Page 4 offers guidance notes (include chronology if known)</b>	
Faith / Ideology	
Personal / emotional & Social	
Risk / Protective factors	
<b>Referrers full name, role, contact details &amp; date submitted.</b>	Date:

Once completed, email to Norfolk Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub:  
[mash.mast@norfolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:mash.mast@norfolk.pnn.police.uk)

**Section 2: MASH forward to**

**Special Branch by e-mail [SpecialBranchFIMU@norfolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:SpecialBranchFIMU@norfolk.pnn.police.uk)**

**Deconfliction checks completed by SB, form then returned to MASH**

**MASH complete agency checks**

**This process must only take place after SB deconfliction checks – then return to Special Branch**

**MASH system checks (please expand boxes as required)**

Police inc. CIS, PNC, PND <input type="checkbox"/>	
Adult Services <input type="checkbox"/>	
Children's Services <input type="checkbox"/>	
Education <input type="checkbox"/>	
General Health <input type="checkbox"/>	
Mental Health <input type="checkbox"/>	
Other (please state)	

Completed by:	Date/time:
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**Send to Special Branch by e-mail: [SpecialBranchFIMU@norfolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:SpecialBranchFIMU@norfolk.pnn.police.uk)**

### Section 3: Norfolk Special Branch to complete

<b>SPOE to enter on to FIMU sheet then email to Prevent lead/deputy</b>	SPOE: Sent to: Date: <span style="float: right;">Time:</span>
<b>Deconfliction checks by Prevent lead/deputy</b> <small>(local/Nat NSBIS, DTU, CMIS)</small>	Conflict <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, stop, back to SPOE; No conflict <input type="checkbox"/> If no, proceed to next point; Prevent assessment by:.....
<b>Suitable for CHANNEL support:</b>	YES <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, individual needs entering on CMIS at this point. NO <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Reasons</b>	
<b>If No, is there an apparent vulnerability to radicalisation to manage outside of CHANNEL through Prevent Case Management?</b>	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>If No, is there another safeguarding issue apparent but no signs of a vulnerability to radicalisation?</b>	YES <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Raise this with a MASH supervisor, agree outcome and refer back to MASH by email as necessary.</b>  NO <input type="checkbox"/> Decision to close referral made by: <span style="float: right;">Date/Time</span>  Detail where rationale is recorded:
<b>Referrer notified of outcome</b>	By: <span style="float: right;">Date/Time:</span>

### Guidance notes for completing this referral form

This form is to help you refer concerns about an individual who may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. Below are questions which may help you to quantify and structure your concerns. The list is not exhaustive and other factors may be present but they are intended as a guide to help communicate your professional judgement about what has led you to make this referral.

### **Faith / ideology**

Are they new to a particular faith / faith strand?

Do they seem to have naïve or narrow religious or political views?

Have there been sudden changes in their observance, behaviour, interaction or attendance at their place of worship / organised meeting?

Have there been specific examples or is there an undertone of “ Them and Us “ language or violent rhetoric being used or behaviour occurring?

Is there evidence of increasing association with a closed tight knit group of individuals / known recruiters / extremists / restricted events?

Are there particular grievances either personal or global that appear to be unresolved / festering?

Has there been an increase in unusual travel abroad without satisfactory explanation?

### **Personal / emotional / social issues**

Is there conflict with their families regarding religious beliefs / lifestyle choices?

Is there evidence of cultural anxiety and / or isolation linked to insularity / lack of integration?

Is there evidence of increasing isolation from family, friends or groups towards a smaller group of individuals or a known location?

Is there history in petty criminality and / or unusual hedonistic behaviour (alcohol/drug use, casual sexual relationships, and addictive behaviours)?

Have they got / had extremist propaganda materials ( DVD's, CD's, leaflets etc.) in their possession?

Do they associate with negative / criminal peers or known groups of concern?

Are there concerns regarding their emotional stability and or mental health?

Is there evidence of participation in survivalist / combat simulation activities, e.g. paint balling?

### **Risk / Protective Factors**

What are the specific factors which are contributing towards making the individual more vulnerable to radicalisation? E.g; mental health, language barriers, cultural anxiety, impressionability, criminality, specific grievance, transitional period in life etc.

Is there any evidence of others targeting or exploiting these vulnerabilities or risks?

What factors are already in place or could be developed to firm up support for the individual or help them increase their resilience to negative influences? E.g. positive family ties, employment, mentor / agency input etc.

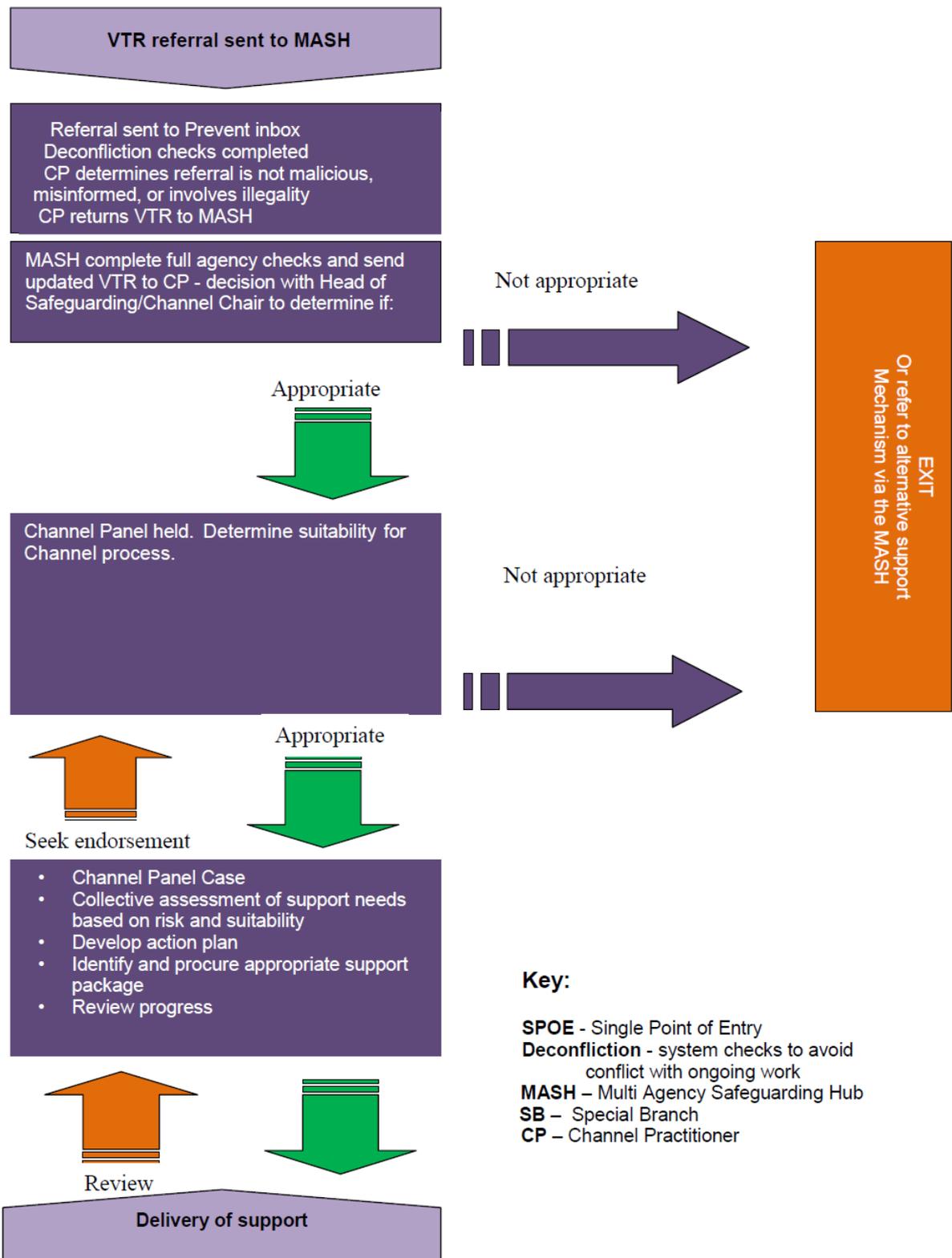
*The Constabulary collects and uses personal information so that it can carry out its legal and legitimate functions as defined by legislation, common law and best practice. Information is used to:*

- Prevent and detect crime
- Apprehend and prosecute offenders
- Protect life and property
- Maintain law and order and give assistance to members of the public

*Information is handled in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998, which sets out 8 Data Protection Principles of good information handling practice governing the fair and lawful processing, maintenance and security of data. Please ensure that in processing the attached information, you undertake to ensure the principles are complied with. Further information can be found at: [www.norfolk.police.uk](http://www.norfolk.police.uk) / [www.suffolk.police.uk](http://www.suffolk.police.uk).*

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## Appendix 4: Channel Flow chart referral process



### Key:

**SPOE** - Single Point of Entry

**Deconfliction** - system checks to avoid conflict with ongoing work

**MASH** – Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub

**SB** – Special Branch

**CP** – Channel Practitioner

MASH no longer exists CADS replaces MASH

## Vulnerable to Radicalisation (VTR) or Influenced by Extremism

*This quick guide provides practitioners with guidance re concerns in relation to any child, young person or adult who may be at risk of being adversely influenced or radicalised by any extremist group or ideology.*

**The purpose of the PREVENT Strategy is to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting violent extremism in all its forms. The strategy has three objectives, one of which is to prevent people from being drawn into extremism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support.**

### Identification

Here are examples of indicators that *may* suggest vulnerability to violent extremism:

- ✓ **Expressed opinions** – such as support for violence and terrorism or the values of extremist organisations, airing of political or religious based grievances, unaccepting of other nationalities, religions or cultures.
- ✓ **Material** – possession of extremist literature; attempts to access extremist websites and associated password protected chat rooms; possession of material regarding weapons, explosives or military training
- ✓ **Behaviour and behavioural changes** – such as withdrawal from family and peers; hostility towards former associates and family; association with proscribed\* organisations and those that hold extremist views

\*under the Terrorism Act 2000 the Home Secretary has the power to proscribe – forbid by law – an organisation believed to be concerned in terrorism.

The below link gives details of each organisation proscribed by the UK government:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/400902/Proscription-20150123.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/400902/Proscription-20150123.pdf)

- ✓ **Personal history** – Claims or evidence of involvement in organisations voicing violent extremist ideology and identifying with their cause.

### Notice

A practitioner from any agency working with the child, young person or adult could be the person to notice that there has been a change in the individual's behaviour that may suggest they are vulnerable to violent extremism.

### Check

The next step is for the practitioner to speak to colleagues and/or partners to better understand the concerns raised by the behaviours observed to decide whether intervention and support is needed. In many cases there will be an explanation for the behaviours that either requires no further action or a referral not related to radicalisation or extremism.

## Share

Where the practitioner still has concerns that the individual may be vulnerable to violent extremism, a Vulnerable To Radicalisation (VTR) referral form is to be completed and sent to the MASH. The MASH will notify Special Branch to carry out deconfliction checks and an initial assessment of the VTR prior to any further information gathering on the individual.

**Make a referral by completing the VTR below and sending to the Norfolk MASH.**

**For urgent safeguarding concerns contact the Norfolk MASH.**

**[Click here and then scroll down to Prevent section to access to Norfolk VTR Referral form](#)**

## Channel

Channel is a Multi-Agency Process, which provides support to those who may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. Channel uses existing collaboration between partners to support individuals and protect them from being drawn into terrorism.

Examples of support provided could include mentoring, diversionary activities such as sport, signposting to mainstream services such as education, employment or housing. The Channel process can access the use of an 'intervention provider'. This is Home Office funded and uses those on an approved list to work with individuals around their individual ideologies.

The Channel Practitioner will:

- Conduct an initial review of the information received to ensure the referral meets the necessary threshold
- Contact partners through previously established Single Points of Contact to access further information
- Where the individual is under 18 liaise with the local CAF co-ordinator, safeguarding manager or social care officer in Children and Young People's Services
- Undertake a continuous risk assessment process

## Safeguarding children and Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA)

In some cases it may not be appropriate for an individual to continue through the Channel process because they are involved in a different statutory mechanism such as 'MAPPA' or child protection arrangements. Channel is not intended to replace those referral systems; in such cases ownership will rest with the relevant statutory support mechanism and the case may exit the Channel process or work alongside.

## Channel Strategy Meeting

This meeting involves a wide range of partners such as housing and education and individual referrals which have been assessed as suitable for potentially suitable for Channel are considered with safeguarding that person the primary objective. It will be chaired by a Local Authority Safeguarding Manager.

If the consensus is that support is required, an appropriate support package will be set out in an action plan. At appropriate intervals the case will be reviewed. Once the risk has been successfully reduced or managed the panel will recommend that the case exits the process.

## Contact Information

For general questions relating to Prevent, contact Norfolk Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub:  
[mash.mase@norfolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:mash.mase@norfolk.pnn.police.uk)

## Appendix 6: Briefing sheet – all staff are issued with on induction at Smithdon high school



# Smithdon High School Safeguarding Briefing sheet



## Prevent and Radicalisation

In the government guidance for England Keeping Children Safe in Education radicalisation is defined as ‘the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism’ (DfE, 2018).

Schools in England and Wales have a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 to identify vulnerable children and young people and prevent them from being drawn into terrorism (HM Government, 2015). The Prevent Duty guidance for schools in England and Wales was issued under section 29 of the Act and states specifically what action schools should take to prevent and respond to concerns about radicalisation (HM Government, 2015).

The Prevent Duty guidance highlights that protecting children and young people from being drawn into terrorism. The Channel Duty (see later) guidance provides a vulnerability framework that can be used to identify those who may at risk of becoming radicalised (Home Office, 2015). It also provides a list of possible indicators, some of which include:

- a person changing their style of dress or personal appearance to accord with the group
- a person’s day-to-day behaviour becoming increasingly centred around an extremist ideology, group or cause
- a person being in possession of material or symbols associated with an extremist cause.

Online radicalisation through social media and the internet is a particular concern. The Home Office and DfE have published a briefing for schools in England the use of social media for online radicalisation (DfE, Home Office, 2015).

### Ways to protect children and young people from radicalisation

Providing a safe environment for debating controversial issues, schools can build pupils’ resilience to radicalisation and help them understand how they can influence and participate in decision-making.

As stated in the Prevent Duty guidance schools are expected to promote community cohesion and British values as part of pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development (HM Government, 2015).

### What to do if you have a concern

Getting early help to those at risk is vital and this can be done through pupil support, welfare and pastoral systems.

There is also a specific support programme that schools can refer pupils to. The Channel programme is a multi-agency intervention programme targeted mainly at 15-24 year olds at risk of being drawn into Islamist extremism. This programme involves mentoring and signposting.

If a member of staff has a concern that a pupil may be at risk of becoming radicalised, they should follow the school’s normal safeguarding procedures and the DSL if necessary will make the appropriate referral to CADs, the police or Channel as advised in the Prevent Duty guidance (HM Government, 2015).

The DfE also has a dedicated telephone helpline for England for non-emergency concerns about extremism (020 7340 7264).