# The Prevent Duty & promoting British Values Policy.

**The Orchard Nursery – Prevent Duty & British Values Policy**

**1. Policy Statement**

At The Orchard Nursery, we take safeguarding very seriously. We are committed to protecting and safeguarding young children and families deemed at risk of radicalisation, with the intent to prevent them from being drawn into terrorism.

From 1st July 2015, it has been a legal requirement for all Early Years providers to have in operation *The Prevent Duty Policy*. Under Section 26 of the **Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015**, registered childcare providers must have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism."

This duty is known as **The Prevent Duty** and is part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities, similar in nature to protecting children from other forms of harm and abuse.

---

**2. Designated Persons**

- **Prevent Duty Lead:** Emma Middleton
- **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL):** Emma Middleton
- **Deputy Safeguarding Officers:** Jo Martin / Kelsie Moss

---

**3. Staff Responsibilities**

All practitioners must:

- Be able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation (training will be provided).
- Remain alert to changes in children's behaviour, demeanour, or personality, even in very young children.
- Recognise that behaviours of concern can be observed during:
  - Circle time
  - Role-play activities
  - Quiet times (when children may disclose concerns to their key person)
- Understand that terrorism is not promoted by any religion and that people from any background can be drawn into radicalisation.
- Avoid unnecessary intrusion into family life, but act on any behaviour of concern.
- Follow the nursery's safeguarding procedures when concerns arise.

---

**4. Understanding Radicalisation and Extremism**

**Radicalisation**: The act or process of making a person more radical, often favouring extreme or fundamental changes in political, economic, or social conditions, institutions, or habits of mind. It refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism.

**Extremism**: Holding extreme political or religious views, including:

- Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British Values.
- Calls for the death of members of the armed forces, whether in the UK or overseas.

There is **no single way** of identifying who is susceptible to extremist ideology. Contributing factors may include:

- Personal background
- Family or friends' influence
- Online contact
- Specific needs that an extremist group appears to address

**The internet and social media** are significant factors in the radicalisation of young people.

---

**5. Possible Indicators of Radicalisation**

**Emotional Signs**

- Angry outbursts
- Mood swings

- New-found arrogance

**Verbal Signs**

- Expressing opinions at odds with generally shared values
- Using insulting or derogatory language towards members of another group

**Physical or Behavioural Signs**

- Changes in appearance (e.g., tattoos, changes in dress style aligned with an extremist group)
- Changes in routine
- Taking long holidays to unusual destinations
- Spending increasing time with suspected extremists
- Loss of interest in friends or activities not linked to an extremist cause
- Attempts to recruit others to a group or cause
- Communication suggesting identification with an extremist group
- Increased prejudice-related incidents, such as:
    - Physical or verbal assaults
    - Provocative behaviour
    - Property damage
    - Derogatory name calling

**Important:** Wearing religious or cultural clothing such as hijabs, niqabs, abayas, or jilbabs is **not** an indicator of radicalisation.

---

**6. Promoting British Values**

We build resilience to radicalisation by actively promoting **British Values**, enabling children to challenge extremist views and think critically. This is embedded in the **Characteristics of Effective Learning and Teaching** within the EYFS.

We promote British Values through:

- **Democracy:**
    - Regular votes involving all children to give them a voice in nursery life.
    - Encouraging children to express opinions respectfully.
- **Individual Liberty:**
    - Assigning daily helper roles to build independence and pride.
    - Supporting children to make choices about their play and learning.
- **Mutual Respect & Tolerance:**
    - Providing playful learning opportunities to help develop empathy, emotional literacy, and positive communal identities.
    - Eradicating inequalities, bullying, discrimination, exclusion, aggression, and violence.

Through these practices, we foster:

- Pro-social behaviours
- Responsible citizenship
- A genuine sense of belonging

---

**7. Reporting Concerns**

Staff must remain vigilant and avoid assuming “it could not happen here.”

**Action Steps if Concerned About a Child:**

1. Discuss your concerns with the **Designated Safeguarding Lead**.
2. Follow the nursery’s safeguarding procedures.
3. Where necessary, liaise with **Children’s Social Care**.
4. In Prevent priority areas, contact the **Local Authority Prevent Lead** for advice.
5. If appropriate, make a referral to the **Channel Programme** (an early support programme for individuals at risk).

---

**8. External Contacts**

- **Department for Education Extremism Helpline:** 020 7340 7264
- **Online Reporting:** Report Extremism
- **Anti-Terrorist Hotline:** 0800 789 321
- **Non-Emergency Police Number:** 101

**Note:** These contacts are not for emergencies. In urgent situations where a child is at immediate risk or there is a security incident, follow emergency procedures and call **999**.

---

**9. Commitment to Safeguarding**

At The Orchard Nursery, safeguarding children from radicalisation is integrated into our overall approach to child protection. This includes:

- Knowing our key children and families well through the **Key Person** system.
- Acting quickly on changes in behaviour, demeanour, or personality.
- Creating a safe, inclusive environment where every child feels valued and protected

Signed on behalf of the nursery.....Emma Middleton.....Date:… August 2026