

PREVENT DUTY RISK ASSESSMENT & ACTION PLAN

St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Ryde, Isle of Wight

Statutory Guidance Alignment: Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (Section 26) | Revised Prevent Duty Guidance (2023/2024) | DfE Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) | DfE Working Together to Safeguard Children | Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Partnership (IOWSCP) & HIPS Procedures.

Target Audience / Scope: All School Staff, Governors, Volunteers, and Visiting Personnel.

1. Contextual Risk Profile: Isle of Wight & Local Factors

The overall national threat level remains **SEVERE** (an attack is highly likely). Under the revised Prevent strategy, schools are required to focus on susceptibility to radicalisation, including non-violent ideology, mixed/unclear ideologies, and extreme online narratives.

- Ideological Landscape:** The primary local risk factors across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight reflect national trends, with a high proportion of referrals linked to Extreme Right-Wing (ERW) ideology, online extreme misogyny/incel culture, and an increasing number of referrals featuring mixed, unclear, or unstable ideologies (often linked to isolation, neurodiversity, or fixation on violence).
- Geographic & Island Factors:** Physical isolation combined with higher rates of unsupervised screen time can increase susceptibility to online radicalisation networks, extreme gaming forums, and radical algorithms.
- Community Dynamics:** Lower ethnic diversity relative to urban areas creates an imperative for active education surrounding diversity, anti-racism, and inclusion.
- Catholic Ethos:** Alignment of Gospel values with Fundamental British Values (FBV)—emphasising human dignity, compassion, rule of law, and mutual respect.

2. Risk Assessment Matrix

2.1 Leadership, Governance & Compliance

Specific Risk Identified	Risk Level	Control Measures Currently in Place	Responsible Person	Action Required / Timeframe
Non-compliance with statutory Prevent Duty or failure to adapt to updated statutory guidance.	Low	- Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) acts as single point of contact (SPOC) for Prevent. - Prevent policy reviewed annually alongside Child Protection policy.	Headteacher / DSL / Safeguarding Governor	Review Prevent Risk Assessment annually with the Governing Body. (Annually / Autumn Term)

Specific Risk Identified	Risk Level	Control Measures Currently in Place	Responsible Person	Action Required / Timeframe
Governance gap: Governors lack awareness of local radicalisation threats or statutory duties.	Low– Medium	- Named Safeguarding Governor appointed. - Governors receive annual safeguarding and Prevent briefings.	Chair of Governors / DSL	Ensure governor training records are updated and cover ERW and online radicalisation risks. (Termly check)

2.2 Staff Training & Professional Curiosity

Specific Risk Identified	Risk Level	Control Measures Currently in Place	Responsible Person	Action Required / Timeframe
Staff fail to recognise indicators of susceptibility (e.g., behavioral changes, extreme speech, fixation on violent themes).	Medium	- All staff complete Home Office/DfE Prevent e-learning on induction and biennially. - Regular safeguarding updates in staff briefings.	DSL	Refresh staff training on recognizing non-ideological or mixed ideology indicators (e.g., online radicalisation, incel subcultures). (Immediate)
Lack of confidence in raising concerns or uncertainty regarding local referral pathways (Channel).	Low– Medium	- Clear, low-threshold safeguarding reporting procedures via school software (e.g., CPOMS). - Prominent reporting posters in staff spaces.	DSL / Deputy DSL	Reiterate to staff the threshold for 'Notice, Check, Share' and the role of the Isle of Wight Channel Panel. (Termly)

2.3 Online Safety & Digital Infrastructure

Specific Risk Identified	Risk Level	Control Measures Currently in Place	Responsible Person	Action Required / Timeframe
Pupils access radicalising, terrorist, or extremist content via school devices or network.	Medium	- UKTC / Smoothwall filtering and monitoring active on all school devices. - Category blocks for hate speech, extremism, and radicalisation.	IT Lead / DSL / Network Provider	Perform regular dual testing (internal audit) of IT filtering to ensure new extremist domains/symbols are blocked. (Termly)

Specific Risk Identified	Risk Level	Control Measures Currently in Place	Responsible Person	Action Required / Timeframe
Unsupervised online activity at home leading to exposure to online grooming or radicalisation.	High	• Computing curriculum includes Online Safety modules (e.g., evaluating online sources, critical thinking).	Computing Lead / PSHE Lead	Issue guidance to parents on home internet safety, gaming safety, and radicalisation risks. (Bi-annually)

2.4 Curriculum, British Values & Ethos

Specific Risk Identified	Risk Level	Control Measures Currently in Place	Responsible Person	Action Required / Timeframe
Pupils lack critical thinking skills, making them susceptible to misinformation, stereotypes, or hate speech.	Medium	• Robust PSHE (SCARF / Ten:Ten) and RE curriculum promoting respect, tolerance, and diversity. • Fundamental British Values (FBV) embedded across Catholic life.	PSHE Lead / RE Lead	Audit curriculum mapping to ensure explicit teaching of critical thinking, media literacy, and challenging stereotypes. (Spring Term)
Narrow cultural awareness leading to prejudiced attitudes or vulnerability to Right-Wing narrative exploitation.	Low–Medium	• Celebration of international cultures, diverse saints, and anti-racism initiatives.	RE Lead / All Teaching Staff	Enhance partnerships with broader community/faith groups to build cross-cultural exposure for pupils. (Ongoing)

2.5 External Visitors, Lettings & School Site

Specific Risk Identified	Risk Level	Control Measures Currently in Place	Responsible Person	Action Required / Timeframe
Visiting speakers promote extremist views or inappropriate narratives to pupils.	Low	• Visiting Speaker Policy in place. • All visitors vetted, supervised, and required to sign in.	Business Manager / DSL	Ensure all visiting speakers complete a pre-booking declaration confirming content aligns with FBV. (Immediate)

Specific Risk Identified	Risk Level	Control Measures Currently in Place	Responsible Person	Action Required / Timeframe
School premises hired by external groups presenting radicalising or divisive materials.	Low	• Lettings policy requires external hirers to agree to non-extremist conditions and school values.	School Business Manager	Audit lettings agreements to explicitly include Prevent compliance clauses. (Annual review)

3. Prevent Action Plan & Response Pathway

In the event of a concern regarding potential susceptibility to radicalisation, staff must follow the standardized referral pathway outlined below:

STEP 1: Concern Identified / Pupil Displaying Susceptibility

Staff member notices behavioral changes, extreme expressions, or concerning digital activity.

STEP 2: Log on CPOMS & Inform DSL

Record objective facts immediately on CPOMS and inform the Designated Safeguarding Lead (Single Point of Contact).

STEP 3: DSL Risk Assessment & Threshold Check

DSL evaluates concern against local Isle of Wight risk factors and statutory thresholds.

STEP 4A: Low Risk / Non-Ideological Driver

Implement in-school pastoral support, Early Help intervention, and active parental engagement.

STEP 4B: Radicalisation Risk / Ideological Driver

Contact Isle of Wight Prevent Team / Police. Submit formal Prevent Referral Form for Channel Panel consideration.

Key Prevent Contacts (Isle of Wight)

Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)	Isle of Wight Council Safeguarding Services
Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary	Counter Terrorism Policing / Prevent Team
National Prevent Advice Line	0800 011 3764

4. Monitoring, Review & Governance Approval

- **Annual Review:** This risk assessment is reviewed annually by the Designated Safeguarding Lead and approved by the Governing Body.

- **Local Alignment:** The DSL attends local Isle of Wight DSL briefings and updates this assessment following any significant local threat level changes or guidance updates issued by the IOW Safeguarding Children Partnership (IOWSCP).

Assessment Completed By: Designated Safeguarding Lead

Date: 28TH September 2026

Approved By: Chair of Governors / Headteacher

Date: 30th September 2026