**37: Prevent Duty**

***Aim of the Policy -* Kidszone**  *takes the safety and protection of children and young people extremely seriously as a matter of both legal and moral importance.* *The Prevent Duty Guidance: for England and Wales (HMG 2015) places duties on registered providers around keeping children safe and promoting their welfare.*

*The Prevent Duty requires providers to ‘have due regard to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism’. This is known as the Prevent Duty, and providers are subject to this duty under section 26 of the Counter –Terrorism and Security Act 2015.*

Protecting children from risk of radicalisation through wider safeguarding duties, already exists and this policy supports the safeguarding children policy

This is similar to protecting children from any other harms, whether these come from their family or are the product of outside influences.

The Prevent Duty is summarised into 4 main sections

- Risk Assessment

- Working in Partnership

- Staff training

- IT policies.

Risk Assessment -

The guidance makes it clear that providers are expected to assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorism, including support for extremist ideas, this should include online radicalisation. There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to a terrorist ideology. As with managing other safeguarding risks, staff should be alert to changes in behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Children at risk of radicalisation may display different signs or seek to hide their views. Staff should use their professional judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately. Even very young children may be vulnerable to radicalisation by others, whether in the family or outside, and

display concerning behaviour.

The Prevent Duty does not require childcare providers to carry out unnecessary intrusion into family life but as with any other safeguarding risk, they must take action when they observe behaviour of concern. Staff should complete an online general awareness training module through the Channel programme to support their understanding in identifying individuals. This can be found at <http://course.ncalt.com/Channel_General_Awareness/01/index.html>

Working in Partnership –

The Prevent Duty builds on existing local partnership arrangements. Local Safeguarding Children’s Boards (LSCB’s) are responsible for co-ordinating what is done by local agencies for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area.

Effective engagement with parents and families is also important as they are in a key position to spot signs of radicalisation. It is important to assist families and raise concerns and be able to point them to the right support mechanism.

Staff Training –

Staff need to understand the importance of Prevent awareness training to equip them in how to identify children at risk of being drawn into terrorism, and to challenge extremist ideas.

Staff are expected to complete the short general awareness Channel course, in addition to a refresher annual on-line standard safeguarding training course.

As a minimum the Designated Safeguarding Lead will undertake Prevent awareness training as an integral part of the ‘Safeguarding for the designated person’ training course; and is therefore able to provide advice and support to the other team members. This training is completed every two years.

IT policies –

As with every other online risk, staff need to be aware of the risk of any extremist or terrorist activity online. This is minimised at pre-school due to children not accessing the internet directly.

Building Children’s resilience to radicalisation -

The fundamental British values are already embedded in the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum (2014) and are defined as:

• Democracy

• The rule of law

• Individual liberty and mutual respect

•Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

Information has been provided for families through displays within the setting.

These values are not unique to the British but are universal aspirations for equality. As such they are fundamental to helping all children become compassionate, considerate adults who form part of a fair and equal society. They are implemented through policies and procedures relating to equality.

behaviour and safeguarding with which the Prevent Duty is entirely

consistent.

To fulfil the Prevent Duty, providers must ensure that:

• Staff are able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation.

• Staff members are aware that if they observe concerning behaviours or actions the Designated Safeguarding Person will be informed

Staff take action when they observe behaviours that are of concern:

• Advice would be immediately sought from Merton/Sutton LSBC

Staff training would be arranged in light of assessment of any risk.

• The subject of safeguarding, which includes the subject of radicalisation, is an agenda item at every staff meeting.

• For further advice staff members could contact the local police force or dial 101 (the non-emergency number) to talk in confidence about concerns and help gain further access to guidance and support.

• In addition the Department for Education has a dedicated telephone helpline (020 7340 7264) to enable staff to raise concerns relating to extremism directly. Concerns can also be raised by email to counter.extremism@educatioon.gsi.gov.uk.

(Please note that the helpline is not intended for use in emergency situations, such as a child being in immediate risk of harm or a security incident, in which case the normal emergency procedures should be followed.)