

DAWAT E ISLAMI UK



PREVENT DUTY POLICY

Prepared by: Dr Zeerak Nasim, Designated Safeguarding Lead

Status of Policy: Final

Ratified by: Trustees

Implementation Date: Jul 2019

Review Date: Jul 2020

POLICY STATEMENT

From 1 July 2015 all 'childcare providers' are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, in the exercise of their functions, to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism". This duty is known as the Prevent duty. It applies to a wide range of public-facing bodies and Dawat e Islami UK have decided to implement it as part of our safeguarding policy.

What is Radicalism?

Radicalism refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and other forms of extremism. Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is seen as part of Dawat e Islami UK's wider safeguarding duties, and is similar in nature to protecting children from other forms of harm and abuse.

During the process of radicalisation it is possible to intervene to prevent vulnerable people being radicalised. There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to an extremist ideology. It can happen in many different ways. Specific background factors may contribute to vulnerability which are often combined with specific influences such as family, friends or online, and with specific needs for which an extremist or terrorist group may appear to provide an answer. The internet and the use of social media in particular has become a major factor in the radicalisation of young people.

What is Extremism?

Extremism is 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.

Constant practice and Procedure

At Dawat e Islami UK it is essential that staff are able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation, and know what to do when they are identified. Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation should be seen as part of Madrassah/Jamias'

wider safeguarding duties, and is similar in nature to protecting children from other harms (e.g. drugs, gangs, neglect, sexual exploitation), whether these come from within their family or are the product of outside influences in the real and virtual worlds.

We can also build children's resilience to radicalisation by promoting fundamental British values and enabling them to challenge extremist views. All staff are instructed to challenge extremist and radical views. It is important to emphasise that the Prevent duty is not intended to stop children debating controversial issues. We will always provide a safe space in which children and staff can understand the risks associated with terrorism and develop the knowledge and skills to be able to challenge extremist arguments.

All of our staff have mandatory requirement to have completed The Prevent Duty Online training prior to commencing their employment with us. In addition all of our staff are DBS checked.

Risk assessment

All the staff are expected to assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorism, including support for extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology. This means being able to demonstrate both a general understanding of the risks affecting children and young people in the area and a specific understanding of how to identify individual children who may be at risk of radicalisation and what to do to support them.

As with managing other safeguarding risks, staff should be alert to changes in children's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Staff should use their professional judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately which may include making a referral to the Channel program (see appendix A for further information on Channel). Staff are encouraged to discuss their concerns with the DSL for further guidance.

Procedure for reporting concerns

If a member of staff has a concern about a particular child they should follow Dawat e Islami UK's normal safeguarding procedures, including discussing with the designated safeguarding lead, who will, where deemed necessary, speak with children's social care.

You can also contact your local police force or dial 101 (the non-emergency number). They can talk to you in confidence about your concerns and help you gain access to support and advice. Also, they can advise if this would be a case for Channel.

The Department for Education has dedicated a 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@education.gsi.gov.uk.

Channel

Channel is a programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. It provides a mechanism for staff to make referrals if they are concerned that an individual might be vulnerable to radicalisation. An individual's engagement with the programme is entirely voluntary at all stages.

Section 36 of the CTSA 2015 places a duty on local authorities to ensure Channel panels are in place. The panel must be chaired by the local authority and include the police for the relevant local authority area. Following a referral the panel will assess the extent to which identified individuals are vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism, and, where considered appropriate and necessary consent is obtained, arrange for support to be provided to those individuals. Channel is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/channel-guidance>

The Department for Education has dedicated a telephone helpline (020 7340 7264) to enable staff and governors to raise concerns relating to extremism directly. Concerns can also be raised by email to: counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk

APPENDIX A

PREVENTING VIOLENT EXTREMISM - ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT (SPOC)

The SPOC for Dawat e Islami UK is Zeerak Nasim (safeguarding@dawateislamiuk.net or 07912763263), who is responsible for:

- Ensuring that staff of the Madrassah/Jamia are aware that you are the SPOC in relation to protecting students/pupils from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism;
- Maintaining and applying a good understanding of the relevant guidance in relation to preventing students/pupils from becoming involved in terrorism, and protecting them from radicalisation by those who support terrorism or forms of extremism which lead to terrorism;
- Raising awareness about the role and responsibilities of Dawat e Islami UK in relation to protecting students/pupils from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism;
- Monitoring the effect in practice of the Madrassah/Jamia 's RE curriculum and assembly policy to ensure that they are used to promote community cohesion and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs;
- Raising awareness within the Madrassah/Jamia about the safeguarding processes relating to protecting students/pupils from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism;
- Acting as the first point of contact within the Madrassah/Jamia for case discussions relating to students/pupils who may be at risk of radicalisation or involved in terrorism;
- Collating relevant information from in relation to referrals of vulnerable students/pupils into the Channel process;
- Attending Channel* meetings as necessary and carrying out any actions as agreed;
- Reporting progress on actions to the Channel Co-ordinator; and sharing any relevant additional information in a timely manner.