



# PREVENT DUTY PRINCIPLES

PLAY THERAPY UK

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## Introduction

Play Therapy UK (PTUK) as an organisation takes their safeguarding responsibilities seriously at all times. It is committed to ensuring the safety and physical and emotional well-being of children. PTUK recognises that members who work therapeutically will come into contact with children or adults at risk who may be at risk of harm or exploitation including radicalisation.

PTUK members are therefore considered to be working in a frontline role, and as such must comply with the Prevent Duty under the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015. Members have a legal obligation to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism (Prevent Duty). It forms one of the four strands of the government's strategy for countering terrorism CONTEST strategy: Pursue, Protect, Prepare & Prevent.

The Prevent Duty sits alongside duties on all PTUK members to work with local authorities, police and other partners to safeguard people from harm or exploitation. This policy is designed to support members to exercise their statutory and professional duties to safeguard vulnerable children, young people and adults at risk of radicalisation.

## Prevent Duty Principles

The Prevent strategic objective is to prevent people from becoming radicalised or supporting terrorist groups, and to challenge all forms of terrorism, including the influence from far-right extremist groups. The Prevent Duty is to protect people from all streams of extremist activity and not solely aimed at one specific group.

The Prevent strategy has 3 key objectives and will specifically:

- Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat faced from those who promote it
- Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice & support
- Work with sectors and institutions where there is a risk of radicalisation

Within the Home Office Prevent Duty guidance document, it sets out very clear expectations and responsibilities of frontline staff. Some of these are detailed below –

*“Where frontline professionals have identified a concern that they consider requires a referral into Prevent, it is important that they can indicate why this risk is relevant to Prevent.”*

*“Frontline staff and others with Prevent responsibilities are expected to have a good understanding of extremist ideologies as a key driver of radicalisation and should complete any required ideology training.”*

*“We expect active engagement from senior managers, leaders & staff with other partners including the police and regional Prevent coordinators”*

*“We expect institutions to demonstrate that they undertake appropriate training & development for Senior Managers, leaders, managers & staff”*

PTUK will provide staff and members with the support they need to implement the Prevent Duty. This will include annual safeguarding and Prevent health checks and risk assessments, arranging training and awareness sessions for staff and management, sharing good practice from the sector, and ensuring communication is frequent and open.

### **Responsibilities**

PTUK takes safeguarding adults at risk and children seriously, and the Board of Directors will:

- Actively engage with partners, including the police and Prevent coordinators;
- Undertake appropriate training and development in Prevent Duty;
- Appoint a member of staff as their Prevent member who will oversee the duty and safeguarding;
- Ensure robust procedures are in place to ensure any subcontractors are aware of the Prevent Duty and the subcontractors are not inadvertently funding extremist organisations;
- Comply with the requirements of the Equalities Act 2010 in ensuring that their organisation challenges discrimination and expects members to comply with this legislation also;
- Ensure that PTUK challenges racism, extremism, hate & prejudice-based bullying, harassment, and intimidation;
- Need to appreciate the sensitivity of the subject and the need to approach the issues carefully with all members and communities;
- Be responsible for ensuring that the Duty and its requirements are communicated to all levels of the organisation – management, staff, and members.

PTUK also advises PTUK members that everyone who comes into contact with children and families has a role to play. PTUK members must ensure they have:

- Active engagement with local partners & support groups and regular contact with Prevent Coordinators;
- Clear, visible policies and procedures for managing whistleblowing & complaints
- Policies in place for using IT equipment safely, legally, and securely;
- A Prevent Duty policy that complements safeguarding and equality acts, and covers welfare & safety of clients;
- A risk assessment is carried out to address their implementation of Prevent;
- Appropriate training in Prevent;
- Robust procedures for sharing information internally and externally about vulnerable individuals;
- Clear Prevent referral process with single point of contacts;

## **PTUK Members should therefore undertake the following:**

### PTUK members working **within an organisation** should:

- Undertake Prevent Duty training;
- Read Safeguarding and Prevent Policy and Procedures;
- Identify the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) within the setting;
- Where a concern is held report concerns in a timely manner to DSL;
- Follow record keeping protocols; and
- Contact Clinical Supervisor for support.

### PTUK members working **in Private Practice** should

- Undertake safeguarding training, including Prevent Duty training;
- Write Safeguarding and Prevent Policy and Procedures;
- **Manage** disclosures and concerns in line with policy and procedures identified by **their** Local Safeguarding Children's Board;
- Follow record keeping protocols; and
- Contact Clinical Supervisor for support.

## **What is radicalisation?**

Radicalisation is the process of a person legitimising support for, or use of, terrorist violence. Most people who commit terrorism offences do so of their own agency and dedication to an ideological cause.

There is no single profile of a radicalised person, nor is there a single pathway or 'conveyor belt' to being radicalised. There are many factors which can, either alone or combined, lead someone to subscribe to terrorist or terrorism supporting ideology. These factors often include exposure to radicalising influences, real and perceived grievances – often created or exacerbated through grievance narratives espoused by extremists – and a person's own susceptibility. Radicalisation could occur in the community or online.

A person's susceptibility to radicalisation may be linked to their vulnerability. A person can be vulnerable if they need special care, support or protection because of age, disability, SEN's, risk of abuse or neglect. A person's vulnerabilities may be relevant to their susceptibility to radicalisation and to the early intervention approach that is required to divert them away from radicalisation.

In other cases, vulnerabilities may not be present or relevant to the early intervention approach required. Not all people susceptible to radicalisation will be vulnerable, and there are other circumstances, needs or other underlying factors that may make a person susceptible to radicalisation but do not constitute a vulnerability.

## **Prevent Duty training**

PTUK members working with Adults at Risk, children or supervising play therapists require regular Prevent Duty training to refresh knowledge and keep abreast of changes to legislation. Prevent Duty training should be undertaken every three years as a minimum requirement.

The Home Office provides free Prevent Duty training, which is available through their website [Prevent duty training - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/prevent-duty-training)

**This policy links to:**

PTUK Safeguarding Policy

PTUK Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Policy

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