

**Anti-Radicalisation (Prevent Duty) Policy 14th February 2024 (reviewed annually, next review February 2025)**

**Introduction**

Ambrose Lynch is committed to promoting a safe and inclusive environment for all individuals under our guardianship. This Anti-Radicalisation (Prevent Duty) Policy aims to outline the measures Ambrose Lynch takes to prevent radicalisation and extremism, in line with the UK government's Prevent strategy.

**Policy Objectives:**

* **Promotion of British Values**

Ambrose Lynch Guardianship Services actively promotes the fundamental values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs.

* **Early Intervention and Reporting**

All staff members and stakeholders are encouraged to be vigilant and report any concerns or signs of radicalisation promptly. Ambrose Lynch will provide training to staff to recognize signs of vulnerability and radicalisation.

* **Engagement with External Agencies**

Ambrose Lynch will work collaboratively with local authorities, schools, and relevant external agencies to share information, assess risks, and support individuals at risk of radicalisation.

**Prevent Duty**

Ambrose Lynch is 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. Bodies to which the duty applies must have regard to the statutory guidance.

Links to specific training undertaken by the Ambrose Lynch DSL are below:

* Prevent awareness e-learning: the Home Office has developed three e – learning modules.
* <http://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/> An introduction to the Prevent Duty
* <https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/preventreferrals> Informs staff to make referrals that are robust, informed and with good intent.
* [https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/channel\_awareness/01- welcome.html](https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/channel_awareness/01-%20welcome.html) Aimed at staff who may be asked to contribute to or sit on a Channel panel.

To fulfil the Prevent duty, 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 wider safeguarding duties and is similar in nature to protecting children from other harms (e.g., drugs, gangs, neglect, sexual exploitation), wherever these come from.

Prevent duty is not intended to stop students debating controversial issues. On the contrary, it’s important that Students and staff can understand the risks associated with terrorism and develop the knowledge and skills to be able to challenge extremist arguments.

**Risk assessment**

The statutory guidance makes clear that schools and childcare providers 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.

The general risks affecting children and young people may vary from area to area, and according to their age. Ambrose Lynch staff and our host families are in an important position to identify risks within a given local context. It is important that schools and childcare providers understand these risks so that they can respond in an appropriate and proportionate way. At the same time schools and childcare providers should be aware of the increased risk of online radicalisation, as terrorist organisations such as ISIL seek to radicalise young people through the use of social media and the internet. The local authority and local police will be able to provide contextual information to help schools and childcare providers understand the risks in their areas.

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 children’s 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. Ambrose Lynch’s 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 staff or host families to carry out unnecessary intrusion into the student’s life but as with any other safeguarding risk, they must take action when they observe behaviour of concern.

Ambrose Lynch has clear procedures in place for protecting children at risk of radicalisation. These procedures may be set out in the Safeguarding and Child Protection policy which can be found at [www.ambroselynch.com](http://www.ambroselynch.com) . General safeguarding principles apply to keeping children safe from the risk of radicalisation as set out in the relevant statutory guidance, Working together to safeguard children (2015) and [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/upl oads/attachment\_data/file/912592/Keeping\_children\_safe\_in\_education \_Sep\_2020.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/upl%20oads/attachment_data/file/912592/Keeping_children_safe_in_education%20_Sep_2020.pdf).

Host families should understand when it is appropriate to make a referral to the Channel programme and advice may be sought at any time from the DSL [dominic@ambroselynch.com](mailto:dominic@ambroselynch.com) or 24 hour emergency tel: 07767273863

**The Channel Programme**

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. The programme uses a multi-agency approach to protect vulnerable people by:

a. identifying individuals at risk.

b. assessing the nature and extent of that risk; and

c. developing the most appropriate support plan for the individuals concerned.

Channel may be appropriate for anyone who is vulnerable to being drawn into any form of terrorism. Channel is about ensuring that vulnerable children and adults of any faith, ethnicity or background receive support before their vulnerabilities are exploited by those that would want them to embrace terrorism, and before they become involved in criminal terrorist related activity. Success of the Channel programme is very much dependent on the co-operation and coordinated activity of partners. It works best when the individuals and their families fully engage with the programme and are supported in a consistent manner.

**Monitoring and Review**

**Regular Review**

The Anti-Radicalisation (Prevent) Policy will be regularly reviewed to ensure its effectiveness and compliance with current legislation and best practices.

**Feedback Mechanism**

Ambrose Lynch welcomes feedback from staff, students, and stakeholders on the effectiveness of the Prevent strategy. Feedback will be used to enhance and update the policy as needed.

This Anti-Radicalisation (Prevent) Policy is integral to our commitment to safeguarding the well-being and security of all individuals under our guardianship. All staff members and stakeholders are expected to familiarize themselves with and adhere to this policy.

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