

Prevent and Channel Update - Summer 2024

Prevent Risk Assessment for schools

Last autumn the DfE published a new template for schools to help assess and understand risk in your local area and in your school.

A risk assessment is a core part of implementing the Prevent duty. All providers should read guidance from the department on how to complete a risk assessment and on safeguarding students susceptible to radicalisation.

Schools should assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorism, including support for extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology and consider proportionate action to address risk, so for example ensuring access to the internet keeps learners safe from extremist content.

To support the assessment the Prevent risk assessment template has been updated with the latest information on the risks to the local area. This draws on what is called the Counter Terrorism Local Profile produced annually each March by the Counter Terrorism Police South - East team.

The pre-populated template has been circulated to the Designated Safeguarding Leads of all education settings in the local authority area.

[See DfE guidance.](#)

Independent report predicting harm among Incels (involuntary celibates)

The Commission for Countering Extremism has published a report on research they have commissioned relating to involuntary celibates (incels). It is the largest survey of involuntary celibates (incels) to date – taken across the UK and US and explores their demographics, ideological beliefs, how they network offline and online and how likely they are to favour violence. The key headlines and full report [are available online.](#)

The study concluded that the mental health of incels was typically very poor, with a high number reporting that they suffered from depression and had regular thoughts of suicide. They also reported a high degree of victimhood, anger and misogynistic attitudes. Furthermore, the findings point towards high levels of neurodiversity; around a third passed the cut-off for a medical referral in the autism spectrum questionnaire.

Prevent Referrals | Assessing Risk

The Prevent Programme is designed to safeguard anyone who may be vulnerable to all forms of extremism or radicalisation. The aim is to act early to spot the warning signs of someone being drawn or groomed into extremist ideologies to provide support via the multi-agency Channel Panel.

The government has produced guidance to help you consider risk indicators. These risk indicators are a helpful guide to help you make a judgement on the appropriate response. The guidance [is available online](#). If in doubt, make a referral.



How to report concerns and make referrals to Channel about a child or adult at risk of extremism:

Concerns about a child or an adult should always be made to either children's or adult's social care as appropriate as well as reporting to Thames Valley police by completing the Prevent referral form.

You can visit the [Berkshire West Children's Safeguarding Partnership website](#) for information about making a referral, including access to the Prevent national referral form.

If you need to make a referral for a young person aged 18 or over, please find the information on the [Berkshire West Adults Safeguarding Partnership website](#).