



**ACL**

# PREVENT STRATEGY

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Essex County Council



## WHAT IS THE PREVENT STRATEGY?

Prevent is a government strategy designed to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorist or extremist causes. The Prevent strategy covers all types of terrorism and extremism including the Extreme Right Wing, religious extremists, conspiracy theorists amongst others.

## HOW DOES THE PREVENT STRATEGY APPLY TO ACL ESSEX?

We have a responsibility under the Prevent duty to protect people from being radicalised. As an education provider we are committed to raising awareness of radicalisation, and extremism. ACL Essex will provide a 'safe place' to discuss these issues so that our staff and learners better understand how to protect themselves.

## WHAT IS 'RADICALISATION' AND 'EXTREMISM'?

Radicalisation happens when someone gets drawn into extremism. Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist views associated with terrorist groups. The Government strategy to combat terrorism is known as CONTEST.

## HOW DOES PREVENT RELATE TO BRITISH VALUES?

The government has defined extremism in the Prevent strategy as: "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."

## IN PRACTICE AT ACL

Many of the things we already do within ACL Essex help develop a positive learning culture. Some of the ways we do this include:

- ▶ Exploring other cultures & religions & promoting diversity
- ▶ Promoting the spiritual, moral, social & cultural development of learners, as well as British values such as democracy
- ▶ Developing critical thinking skills & a strong, positive self-identity
- ▶ Challenging prejudices & racist comments

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## IN PRACTICE AT ACL CONTINUED

We will also protect individuals from the risk of radicalisation, for example by using filters on the internet to ensure they cannot access extremist and terrorist material. At ACL Essex, we will ensure that any discussions are tailored to suit the understanding of the learners

## WHO IS MOST AT RISK OF RADICALISATION?

Anyone can be radicalised, but there are some factors such as being easily influenced and impressionable that may make children, young people and supported adults particularly vulnerable. Individuals who are at risk of radicalisation may have low self-esteem or be victims of bullying or discrimination.

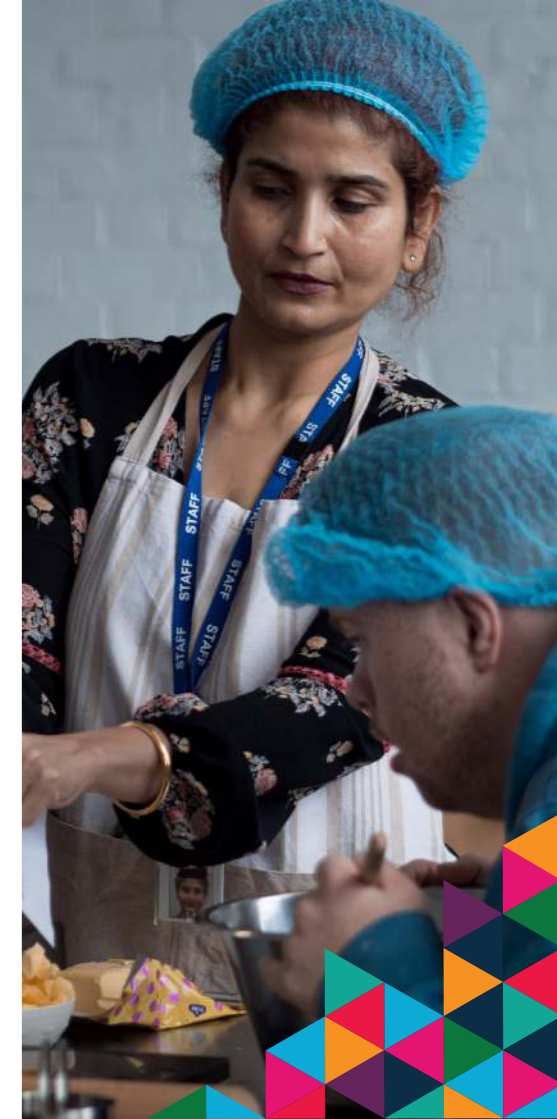
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Is extremism really a risk in our area?

YES! Extremism can take many forms, including political, religious & misogynistic extremism (known as 'incel' ideology). Some of these might be a bigger threat than others in our area.

## SPOTTING THE SIGNS

1. Isolating themselves from friends & family.
2. Talking as if from a scripted speech.
3. Unwillingness or inability to discuss their views.
4. A sudden disrespectful attitude towards others.
5. Increased levels of anger.
6. Increased secretiveness, especially around internet use.
7. Questioning their place in society.
8. Family issues.
9. Experiencing a traumatic event.
10. Experiencing racism or discrimination.
11. Becoming distanced from their cultural or religious background.
12. Difficulty in interacting socially & lacking empathy.
13. Low self esteem.



## HOW DO I SHARE CONCERNS & WHO/WHERE DO I REPORT IT?

Staff should report all concerns regarding radicalisation to the Safeguarding Lead or a Safeguarding Officer immediately. Please contact Gemma Hills 07887059861 or Emma Crump 07928667256. If they are not available you can view all safeguarding contacts on the ACL staff portal.

Staff should report a concern on MyConcern Log in - The Safeguarding Company Authentication  
If you believe a concern is urgent or somebody is at imminent risk of harm DO NOT hesitate to contact the Police on 101 (or 999 for an immediate risk) if you see or hear something that could be terrorist related, call the Anti-Terrorist Hotline on: 0800 789 321

## RESOURCES & SUPPORT

“Preventing Radicalisation” as set out in Keeping Children Safe in Education, (2023, p156-158 )

### IN THE RARE EVENT OF A FIREARMS OR WEAPONS ATTACK

### RUN HIDE TELL



**RUN** to a place of safety. This is a far better option than to surrender or negotiate. If there's nowhere to go, then...

**HIDE.** It's better to hide than to confront. Remember to turn your phone to silent and turn off vibrate. Barricade yourself in if you can. Then finally and only when it is safe to do so...

**TELL** the police by calling 999.

## EXTERNAL RESOURCES

Prevent Support  
Get help if you're worried about someone being radicalised - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))

Prevent Duty for England and Wales  
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/get-help-if-youre-worried-about-someone-being-radicalised>

Social media and online radicalisation  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-use-of-social-media-for-online-radicalisation>

Educate against hate  
<https://educateagainsthate.com>

Counter terrorism police  
<https://www.counterterrorism.police.uk/>





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