



Anti-Radicalisation and Prevent Duty Policy

Guardianship Organisation · AEGIS Accredited

Document reference	Policy 8.5
Version	0.8
Date	September 2026
Policy owner	Victoria Barfoot-Saunt, Compliance Director
Next review	September 2027
Applies to	All directors, staff, volunteers, homestays, students, parents and agents

Statutory basis. This policy has been written to align with Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026 (in force from 1 September 2026), Working Together to Safeguard Children (current version), the Prevent duty guidance for England and Wales 2023, and the AEGIS Code of Practice and Quality Standards for Guardianship Organisations.

A note on applicability. Keeping Children Safe in Education, referred to throughout as KCSIE, is statutory guidance for schools and colleges. BOSSS UK is a guardianship organisation and is not a school, so KCSIE does not apply to it directly. BOSSS UK nevertheless adopts KCSIE as its safeguarding standard because AEGIS requires accredited guardianship organisations to align with it, and because our staff and homestays care for the same children outside term time. Where a KCSIE requirement is written for a school setting, we apply the equivalent proportionate arrangement and say so.

1 Background

- 1.1 This Anti-Radicalisation and Prevent Duty Policy is part of our commitment to keeping children safe. Over recent years, global events have led to a growth of extremist viewpoints, including the advocacy of violent extremism.
- 1.2 Schools have an important part to play both in educating children about extremism and in recognising when a pupil starts to become radicalised. Statutory duties were placed on specified authorities, including schools, by the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015. BOSSS UK is not itself a specified authority under the Act, but as a guardianship organisation it applies the Prevent duty proportionately as part of its wider safeguarding and duty of care responsibilities.
- 1.3 Safeguarding children from all risks of harm is an important part of BOSSS UK's work, and protecting them from extremism is one aspect of that.
- 1.4 This policy must be read alongside the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy 8.1, in particular Part 14 on online safety and Appendix E on preventing radicalisation.

2 Ethos

- 2.1 At BOSSS UK we ensure that, through our vision, values, rules, policies and diverse homestay network, we promote tolerance and respect for all cultures, faiths and lifestyles. This ethos is reflected and implemented in our policy and practice, and effective risk assessments are in place to safeguard and promote students' welfare.
- 2.2 We have a duty to prepare the children in our care for life in modern Britain and to keep them safe.
- 2.3 Students placed in our care have the right to learn in safety. We do not tolerate bullying of any kind and will challenge derogatory language and behaviour towards others.
- 2.4 KCSIE 2026 expects schools and colleges to maintain an inclusive and anti-discriminatory safeguarding culture. BOSSS UK adopts the same standard proportionately. Prejudice-based harm, including racism and faith-based discrimination, is a safeguarding matter and is reported to the DSL. See Part 2.5 of Policy 8.1. This works in both directions: our students may be drawn towards extremist ideology, and they may equally be the targets of it.

3 Statutory duties and guidance

The duty to prevent children and young people being radicalised is set out in the following, in each case the current version:

- the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, section 26, which creates the Prevent duty;
- Prevent duty guidance: England and Wales 2023, Home Office;
- Keeping Children Safe in Education;
- Working Together to Safeguard Children; and
- the Prevent duty toolkit for local authorities and partner agencies.

4 Definitions

- 4.1** Extremism is the promotion or advancement of an ideology based on violence, hatred or intolerance, which aims to negate or destroy the fundamental rights and freedoms of others; undermine, overturn or replace the UK's system of liberal parliamentary democracy and democratic rights; or intentionally create a permissive environment for others to achieve those aims.
- 4.2** Radicalisation is the process by which a person comes to support terrorism or extremist ideologies associated with terrorism. In a safeguarding context, this includes recognising when a child or young person may be susceptible to being drawn into terrorism or supporting terrorism.
- 4.3** British values are democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.
- 4.4** The Prevent duty is the duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. It is part of our wider safeguarding obligations, not separate from them.

5 Roles and responsibilities

- 5.1** It is the role of the Prevent Lead, who is also the DSL, and the Deputy Prevent Lead, who is also the Deputy DSL, to ensure that BOSSS UK meets its duties in relation to preventing radicalisation.
- 5.2** The Prevent Lead or Deputy Prevent Lead will liaise with students, parents, agents, staff, volunteers, homestays and partner schools about protecting children from radicalisation, and will:
- ensure that students, parents, agents, staff, volunteers, homestays and partner schools understand the issue of radicalisation, understand this policy, are able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation, and know how to refer their concerns;
 - receive safeguarding concerns about students who may be vulnerable to the risk of radicalisation, or who are showing signs of radicalisation;
 - make referrals to appropriate agencies, including a referral to the Channel programme where appropriate; and
 - liaise with partner schools, the local authority and the police.
- 5.3** It is the role of all staff, volunteers and homestays to understand the issue of radicalisation, to be able to recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation, and to know how to refer their concerns.

5.4 Prevent Lead and Deputy Prevent Lead contact details

Role	Name	Contact number (24 hour)	Email
Designated Safeguarding Lead and Prevent Lead	Tina Wong	+44 (0)7776 206352	info@bosssguardians.com
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputy Prevent Lead	Eva (Haiwa) Qui	+44 (0)7922 152628	info@bosssguardians.com

The numbers above are 24 hour contact numbers for students, staff, volunteers, homestays and schools to report any concern about radicalisation. If neither can be reached, contact the Managing Director, Betty Ong-Stevens, on +44 (0)7710 946398. In an emergency, dial 999. The Anti-Terrorist Hotline is 0800 789 321.

6 Internet safety, misinformation and artificial intelligence

- 6.1** The internet provides children and young people with access to a wide range of content, some of which is harmful. Extremists use the internet, including social media and gaming platforms, to share their messages.
- 6.2** Where students, parents, agents, staff, volunteers, homestays or partner schools identify extremist content, they must report it to the DSL or Deputy DSL. Terrorist material can also be reported to the government directly through the reporting service on GOV.UK.
- 6.3** We are aware that students have access to unfiltered internet when using their mobile phones, and staff, volunteers, homestays and partner schools are alert to the need for vigilance when students are using their devices. Homestay filtering and monitoring arrangements, and the annual review of them introduced by KCSIE 2026, are set out at Part 14.7 of Policy 8.1.

6.4 Misinformation, disinformation and conspiracy theories

This paragraph is new. KCSIE 2025 expanded the online content harms to include misinformation, disinformation including fake news, and conspiracy theories. Exposure of this kind can be a route into extremist ideology, because conspiracy thinking often supplies the grievance narrative that extremist groups then exploit. Staff and homestays should be alert to:

- a student repeating conspiracy narratives as established fact;
- a sudden and confident shift in a student's worldview, particularly one framed around a hidden enemy or a group said to be responsible for the student's difficulties;
- a growing distrust of mainstream information sources, teachers or family; and
- a student sharing material of this kind with other students.

These are not in themselves evidence of radicalisation, and staff must not treat a student's political or religious view as a safeguarding concern simply because they disagree with it. They are indicators to note and, where combined with the signs at paragraph 8, to report to the Prevent Lead.

6.5 Generative artificial intelligence

This paragraph is new. Generative AI tools can produce persuasive extremist content at scale, can be used to create convincing fake images and video of real events, and can be used to impersonate a trusted person. Some AI companion applications will engage with extremist framing rather than challenge it. Where a student discloses that an AI tool has produced extremist content for them, or has encouraged them towards extremist views or violence, this must be reported to the Prevent Lead. We follow the Department for Education guidance on generative artificial intelligence in education.

7 Training

- 7.1** Staff, volunteers and homestays are given training to help them understand the issue of radicalisation, recognise the signs of vulnerability or radicalisation and know how to refer their

concerns. Students, parents, staff, volunteers, homestays and partner schools are provided with this policy, and are helped to understand it. It is contained in all Parent, Student and Homestay Handbooks and on our website at www.bosssuk.co.uk.

- 7.2** Prevent training is accessed through the GOV.UK Prevent duty training service. The Prevent Lead and Deputy Prevent Lead complete, as a minimum, Prevent awareness, Prevent referrals and Channel awareness training, supplemented by local authority safeguarding training where required.
- 7.3** The Prevent duty guidance for England and Wales 2023, issued by the Home Office under section 29 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, came into force on 31 December 2023 and replaced the 2015 guidance. This policy uses the current government definition of extremism and the current Prevent safeguarding language on susceptibility to radicalisation.
- 7.4** Prevent training is refreshed at least every two years for the Prevent Lead and Deputy Prevent Lead, and annually for all other staff and homestays as part of the safeguarding training set out at Part 10 of Policy 8.1.

8 Safer recruitment

We ensure that the staff, volunteers and homestays we appoint are suitable, that our recruitment procedures are rigorous, and that we follow the statutory guidance in Part three of KCSIE. Vetting and barring checks are undertaken on all relevant people. From 1 September 2026 the supervision exemption from regulated activity was removed by the Crime and Policing Act 2026, and the resulting position is set out at Part 9.2 of Policy 8.1.

9 Signs of vulnerability and recognising extremism

9.1 Signs of vulnerability

There are no definitive indicators that a young person is vulnerable to radicalisation, but a number of signs together increase the risk. Signs of vulnerability include:

- underachievement;
- being in possession of extremist literature;
- poverty;
- social exclusion and isolation from peers;
- traumatic events;
- global or national events;
- religious conversion;
- change in behaviour;
- extremist influences;
- conflict with family over lifestyle;
- confused identity;

- being a victim of, or witness to, race or hate crime; and
- rejection by peers, family, social groups or faith.

Several of these apply to international students by the nature of their situation. Being far from family, adapting to a new culture and experiencing isolation are ordinary features of studying abroad and are not in themselves safeguarding concerns. They do, however, mean our students warrant particular care and attention.

9.2 Recognising extremism

Early indicators of radicalisation or extremism may include:

- showing sympathy for extremist causes;
- glorifying violence, especially towards other faiths or cultures;
- making remarks about being at extremist events or rallies;
- evidence of possessing illegal or extremist literature;
- advocating messages similar to those of illegal organisations or other extremist groups;
- out of character changes in dress, behaviour and peer relationships, although powerful narratives, programmes and networks exist online so involvement with particular groups may not be apparent;
- secretive behaviour;
- online searches for, or sharing of, extremist messages or social profiles;
- intolerance of difference, including faith, culture, gender, race, sex or sexuality;
- graffiti, artwork or writing that displays extremist themes;
- attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others;
- verbalising anti-Western or anti-British views; and
- advocating violence towards others.

10 Referral process

- 10.1** All concerns about children and young people who show signs of vulnerability or radicalisation must be passed to the Prevent Lead or Deputy Prevent Lead, using the usual methods for reporting safeguarding concerns.
- 10.2** Where there are significant concerns about a student, the Prevent Lead, in liaison with the partner school and the homestay, will make a referral to the appropriate body.
- 10.3** Channel is a programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. It provides a mechanism for making referrals where there is concern that an individual might be vulnerable to radicalisation. Engagement with the programme is entirely voluntary at all stages. The Prevent Lead is aware of local procedures for making a Channel referral, and as a Channel partner BOSSS UK may be asked to attend a Channel panel to discuss an individual who has been referred.
- 10.4** Referral to Channel is a support mechanism, not an accusation and not a criminal process. Staff should not hesitate to raise a concern for fear of the consequences for the student. Equally, a

referral must never be made on the basis of a student's race, religion, nationality or political opinion alone.

- 10.5** Additional support is available through Educate Against Hate, a website developed to equip school leaders, teachers and parents with information, tools and resources, including on the promotion of fundamental British values, to help recognise and address extremism and radicalisation in young people.

11 Monitoring and review

This policy is monitored by BOSSS UK at least annually and any change is notified to relevant parties.

Change control

Date	Version	Name	Change control comments
June 2022	0.6	Victoria Barfoot-Saunt	Updated references from E-Safety to Online Safety. Refreshed Prevent duty toolkit link. Prevent Lead training included
September 2024	0.7	Victoria Barfoot-Saunt	No substantive change since last review.
12/09/2026	0.8	Victoria Barfoot-Saunt	Deputy Prevent Lead updated to Eva (Haiwa) Qui, who is also Deputy DSL. New paragraph 6.4 on misinformation, disinformation and conspiracy theories following KCSIE 2025. New paragraph 6.5 on generative AI following KCSIE 2026. Anti-discriminatory culture added at 2.4. Safer recruitment updated at paragraph 8 for removal of the supervision exemption. Broken cross-reference to a document numbered 8.8 removed and replaced with a cross-reference to Part 14 of Policy 8.1. Dead Home Office e-learning links removed and flagged for replacement. Typographical error "BOSSS UKJ" corrected throughout. Registered office updated. Definitions of extremism and radicalisation updated to align with Prevent duty guidance: England and Wales 2023 and DfE Prevent safeguarding wording.

End of policy