



PREVENT DUTY POLICY

Version date: February 2025

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Policy Statement

From 1st July 2015, registered early years childcare providers were 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. We are required under section 26 to:

- Know about and identify early indicators in children, staff and others associated with Snowys
- Develop the confidence to challenge and intervene
- Assess the risk of our children being drawn into terrorism and terrorist ideology
- Have clear protocols and keep records
- Be monitored by Ofsted in how we exercise these duties

This is known as the Prevent Duty and we will work with the Local Authority and other agencies in making sure we undertake our duties under Prevent.

Purpose of this policy

Our aim is to provide a safe and supportive environment which secures the well-being and very best outcomes for our children. We want all children to feel safe and secure at all times by putting the child's needs first.

The aims of this policy are:

- to demonstrate the setting's commitment to safeguarding children
- to demonstrate how we aim to create a culture of vigilance
- to provide staff with clear information to enable them to meet their statutory responsibilities under the Prevent Duty
- to ensure we have clear procedures in place to deal with concerns in relation to the Prevent Duty

Terminology

Radicalism

Radicalism refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism. Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is seen as part of Snowy's wider safeguarding duties and is similar in nature to protecting children from other forms of harm and abuse.

During the process of radicalisation, it is possible to intervene to prevent vulnerable people being radicalised. There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to this and specific background factors may contribute to vulnerability which are often combined with specific influences such as family, friends or online, and with specific needs for which an extremist or terrorist group may appear to provide an answer.

Extremism

Extremism is 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. We also include in this definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, in this country or overseas.

Channel

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. It provides a mechanism for early years providers to make referrals if they are concerned that a child or his family might be vulnerable to radicalisation. A family's engagement with the programme is entirely voluntary at all stages.

Section 36 of the CTSA 2015 places a duty on local authorities to ensure Channel panels are in place. The panel must be chaired by the local authority and include the police for the relevant local authority area. Following a referral, the panel will assess the extent to which identified individuals are vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism and where appropriate arrange support.

How Snowy's will implement and monitor this policy

At Snowy's Nursery and Preschool it is essential that staff can 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 part of early years providers wider safeguarding duties and is similar in nature to protecting children from other harms, whether these come from within their family or are the product of outside influences.

We can also build children's resilience to radicalisation by promoting fundamental British Values and at Snowy's we teach them to think critically and become independent learners, which is fundamental to the Characteristics of Effective Learning and Teaching embedded in the EYFS.

All staff at Snowy's will complete the Prevent Duty and Channel training.

We need to teach our children that it is possible to live together peacefully, where each of them is a valuable part of our multicultural world. Snowy's adapts and incorporates British Values into its curriculum in a way that is meaningful and appropriate to young children. This is reinforced by posters in the classroom. The "All About Me" booklet identifies beliefs and faiths and these are incorporated into the curriculum where possible to increase the relevance for all children.

The following is a list of positive areas which Snowy's staff seek to address;

- Valuing and respecting family
- Understanding and recognising we live in a multicultural and diverse world
- Working with parents and carers to ensure values are consistent
- Learning about the world in which we live and be proud of what we see around us
- Teaching children to respect the law, learn right from wrong and to have social responsibility
- Promoting a sense of belonging in our local community
- Respecting other faiths and beliefs
- Understanding each child has a voice and is listened to
- Promoting democracy
- Teaching children to be kind, helpful and respectful of others
- Celebrating festivals and marking special days from the world around us
- Teaching children compromise - some of us believe one thing- some of us believe something totally different and neither beliefs are wrong
- Teaching children about shared values and working together towards a common goal.

All staff are instructed to challenge extremist and radical views. Any prejudice, discrimination or extremist views, including derogatory language, displayed by children, parents, carers or staff will always be challenged and actioned as appropriate.

At Snowy's we will not accept the following;

- Actively promoting intolerance of other faiths, cultures and races
- Failure to challenge gender stereotypes and routinely segregating girls and boys
- Isolating children from their wider community
- Failure to challenge behaviours, whether staff, children or parents that are not in line with the fundamental British values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and belief

Signs and indicators

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. Staff should use their professional judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act accordingly. Snowy's staff will be mindful of:

- Disclosures by children of exposure to extremist actions, views or materials of others outside nursery, such as in their homes or community groups
- Neighbouring nurseries, pre-schools, schools, local authority services and police reports of radicalisation issues affecting other settings
- Use of extremist or hate terms to exclude others or incite violence
- Intolerance to difference
- Anti-British views or attempts to undermine cultures of a peaceful and civilised nature.
- Changes in faith/ideology
- Sudden name change linked to a different faith/ideology
- Significant changes in appearance
- Attendance at certain meetings
- Them and us language
- Justifying the use of violence to solve societal issues
- Isolation from usual friends, family or social groups
- Sudden unexplained foreign travel
- Parents/carers presenting worrying views
- A staff member, manager, volunteer or visitor presenting concerning views
- Taking action to remove children from certain activities or visits on the basis of a view seen to be perceived as linked to an extreme view, ideology or irrational fear
- Within the bounds of what is possible for us at Snowys we will assess and monitor the risk of nursery and pre-school children being drawn into terrorism.

Procedure for reporting concerns

If a member of staff at Snowy's has a concern about a particular child they should follow the settings safeguarding procedures by filling in a Cause for Concern form and passing it immediately to the Safeguarding Lead Professional (SLP).

The SLP will consider the information on the Cause for Concern form and act appropriately or call Norfolk County Council's Children's Advice and Duty Service (CADS) for advice. They can advise if there is a case for a Channel referral.

Making a safeguarding referral to CADS

We are clear that the Local Authority and Police must lead any investigation into any allegation regarding safeguarding.

Child protection and safeguarding concerns should be discussed with Norfolk County Council's Children's Advice and Duty Service (CADS).

Telephone 0344 800 8021 Monday to Friday 8am to 8pm to discuss concerns with a Consultant Social Worker via Early Help Pathway Advisors.

CADS will ask:

- All of the details known to you/your agency about the child;
- Their family composition including siblings, and where possible extended
- Family members and anyone important in the child's life;
- The nature of the concern and how immediate it is;
- Any and what kind of work/support you have provided to the child or family to date. They will also need to know where the child is now and whether you have informed parents/carers of your concern This referral is followed up in writing on a NSCB1 form.

Further guidance on how to make a CADS referral is displayed on the staff notice board and in the Safeguarding folder

Staff can make their own referral to CADS if they are not satisfied with the processes used by the setting.

Out of hours: Call 0344 800 8020

Emergencies: Call 999

USEFUL CONTACTS

CADS (Monday - Friday 8am-8pm)	0344 800 8021
CADS Out of Hours	0344 800 8020
Norfolk Police	101 or in an emergency: 999

NAMED DESIGNATED CHILD PROTECTION OFFICER

The following designated staff are in post:

Safeguarding Lead Practitioner	Abbie Goodrum 01603 211445 / manager@snowys.org
Deputy Safeguarding Lead Practitioner	Emma Healy 01603 211445 / office@snowys.org
Management Committee Designated Safeguarding Lead	Vicki Webb 01603 211445 / office@snowys.org

Links to other Snowy's policies and procedures

Safeguarding and Child Protection

Legal reference and context including web links

The latest versions of the following;

- DFE The Prevent Duty
- HMG Channel Guidance
- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act
- Keeping Children Safe in Education