

**Information for clubs, centres, coaches and volunteers on what to look out for when there is a concern someone has or could be radicalised**

More advice is available [www.bhs.org.uk/safeguardingchildren](http://www.bhs.org.uk/safeguardingchildren)

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## What is radicalisation?

Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups. Radicalisation can lead to someone being willing to commit violence based on a set of ideas or ideals.

Social media and the internet has made the process of radicalisation easier for terrorist groups. There is a lot of information on the internet and the dark web that can be accessed by people who want to find out more.

Terrorist groups can include; Far-right, Far-left, Islamist, British Loyalist and Irish Republican. The UK recognises a variety of terrorist groups within these categories, they can be found here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/proscribed-terror-groups-or-organisations--2>

## Radicalisation and safeguarding

Radicalisation and the monitoring of it is covered under the governments safeguarding agenda and The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015. It is required to be covered in safeguarding training for sectors such as education and health. Being aware of radicalisation, noticing signs and then reporting concerns is similar to reporting concerns of abuse in children and adults 'at risk'.

## Sign and Indicators

Radicalisation can happen to anyone at any time however, if someone is vulnerable they will be particularly prone to be manipulated. The process of radicalisation feeds on emotions and gives the person a sense of belonging, purpose and even excitement. Someone may be vulnerable because of a traumatic incident, their family life, they may feel marginalised, confused or have a sense of injustice. All of these will be utilised by those who wish to radicalise in order to offer friendship, a belief and a sense of identity. Terrorist and extreme organisations will have specialist recruiters who will work within communities and online to target and recruit to their cause. Once an organisation has recruited someone, which can take months or even years, they will seek to isolate them from their family and community which then makes it harder for that person to leave the group and return to their previous lifestyle.

# Guidance on radicalisation

What might you notice?

Verbal signs:

scripted speeches

using extreme narratives

using offensive language to a particular group

unhealthy use of the internet

Physical signs:

changes in dress

withdrawn or extrovert

drawing unknown words or symbols

quick to answer

absenteeism

Changes in behaviour:

signs of stress

becoming disrespectful

isolated from friends

fixated on a particular topic

Signs can vary in their severity for example:

Using **new phrases or language** can lead to becoming **fixated on subject** which in turn can lead someone to become **closed to debate** which will finally lead to a **call to action**. This is why intervention is so important.

## The importance of intervention

Intervening before someone carries out a criminal act is an important way to safeguard the general public and the person who has been radicalised. As coaches, instructors, employers and volunteers working with children and adults we are in an ideal position to recognise the signs and move to provide emotional support as well as helping someone to access help through the Prevent programme.

## Prevent

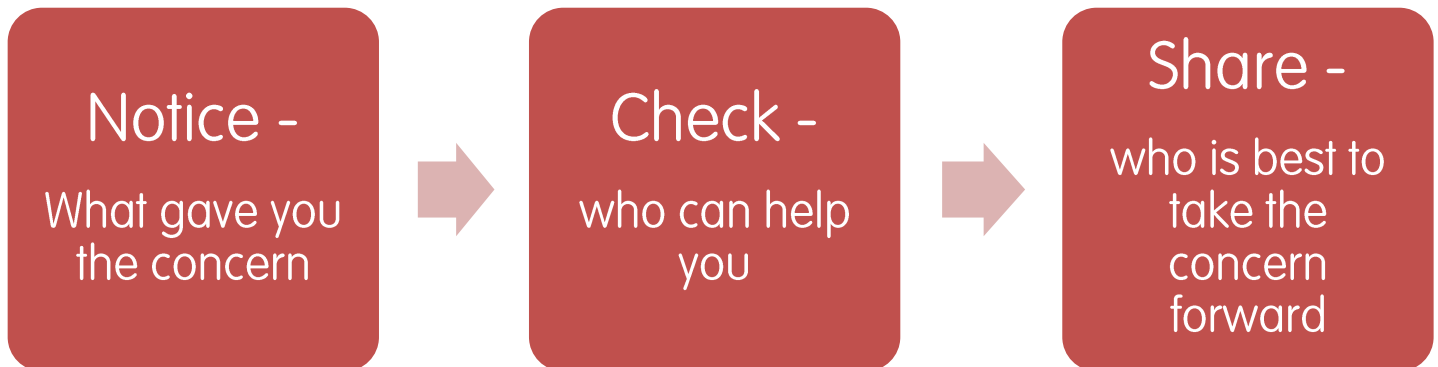
The Prevent duty is designed to stop people from being drawn into terrorism. It applies to a wide range of public-facing bodies in England and Wales, and Scotland such as health, police, probation, social care, and education. These specified authorities are those judged to have a role in protecting vulnerable children, young people and adults and/or the national security.

# Guidance on radicalisation

Prevent keeps people out of the criminal space by using early intervention strategies which are individual, proportionate and sensitive.

## Reporting/Referring

If you have a concern that someone is or has been radicalised you must report this to your Safeguarding officer or in their absence the BHS Safeguarding Officer. The government training talks about the notice, check, share principle:



Sharing information should always be done sensitively and use the 7 golden principles of sharing information in safeguarding

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/721581/Information\\_sharing\\_advice\\_practitioners\\_safeguarding\\_services.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/721581/Information_sharing_advice_practitioners_safeguarding_services.pdf)

## Training

We recommend that you complete radicalisation or prevent training. The government have produced an interactive online course which can be accessed using the link below. This free course can be taken in your own time.

<https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/edu/screen1.html#>

## Further information

NSPCC guidance on talking to children about difficult topics

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/talking-about-difficult-topics/>

Action against hate – useful website for parents, teachers and leaders

<https://educateagainsthate.com/>

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