



The Prevent Duty Policy

Last Review: 27/10/2025

Next Review: 21/08/2026

1.0 Policy Statement

Shooting Stars treats the risk of radicalisation and extremism as a safeguarding matter. We build children's resilience through positive relationships, inclusive practice and the promotion of fundamental British values (democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance). We identify concerns early, act proportionately, and work in partnership with parents and local agencies. We do not criminalise children; our focus is safety, support and education.

2.0 Our Legal Obligations

Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (s.26): duty to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism (**The Prevent duty**).

Prevent Duty Guidance (Early Years providers): risk assessment, staff training, working in partnership, IT policies, and building children's resilience.

EYFS Statutory Framework (2025): safeguarding and welfare; suitable people and leadership; concern reporting; records available to Ofsted.

Working Together to Safeguard Children (2023): identify and respond to risk; information-sharing and referral pathways.

UK GDPR & Data Protection Act 2018: lawful, necessary and proportionate information-sharing; secure records.

Equality Act 2010: fair, non-discriminatory practice; reasonable adjustments; no stereotyping of groups.

3.0 Procedures

3.1 Creating a protective environment

Through the curriculum and daily routines we model and teach turn-taking, listening, respectful disagreement, empathy and friendship across differences. We use books, play and celebration of cultures to promote inclusion. Any discriminatory language or behaviour is challenged calmly and recorded where appropriate (see Managing Behaviour and Equality policies).

3.2 Risk assessment and training

The Manager/DSL reviews local Prevent risks at least annually and after relevant incidents, and ensures our controls (staff deployment, visitors, IT use, parental engagement) are in place. All staff complete Prevent awareness as part of induction and refreshers are provided regularly; the DSL/Manager ensure understanding is embedded (spot checks, scenarios in meetings).

3.3 Online safety and communications

We follow our E-Safety/Mobile Phones and Social Media policies: only nursery devices; supervised use; age-appropriate content; no personal devices in learning areas; visitors may not film/record. Concerns about online content or contacts are treated as safeguarding.

3.4 Recognising and responding to concerns

Staff remain alert to vulnerabilities and indicators, for example: persistent use of hateful or dehumanising language; fixation on violence; sudden change in behaviour combined with exposure to extremist material; attempts to proselytise peers; or concerning online activity (context matters - young children often echo adults without understanding).

If a concern arises, staff record factual observations and inform the DSL immediately. The DSL assesses the level of risk, speaks with parents where appropriate, and decides next steps: early help, advice from the Local Authority Prevent team, or a Prevent/Channel referral. If there is an immediate risk of harm, staff call 999 and inform the DSL.

3.5 Working with parents and partners

We explain our approach to families and aim to address concerns supportively, sharing information on a need-to-know basis. We liaise with the Local Authority (Prevent Lead/Children's Social Care), Police Prevent officers and Early Years advisers as needed, and participate in Channel processes if required.

3.6 Visitors, volunteers and events

Visitors are supervised at all times and must follow nursery conduct and device rules. We do not host speakers or materials that promote intolerance, hatred or violence. Any concerns lead to the session being halted and the DSL informed.

3.7 Recording and information-sharing

Prevent-related notes are stored securely within safeguarding records, separate from general files, with controlled access. We share information lawfully, only what is necessary and proportionate, and keep a clear audit trail of decisions and advice received.

3.8 Staff conduct and wellbeing

All adults model respectful language and behaviour. Staff who feel targeted or distressed by extremist content encountered in the course of safeguarding are offered support and supervision. Any staff conduct that undermines this policy is addressed through HR processes.

3.9 Quality assurance

The Manager/DSL reviews any Prevent cases, near-misses and curriculum practice at least annually; learning informs staff training, environment tweaks and parent communications.

4.0 Roles and Responsibilities

Nursery Manager: ensures policy implementation, staff training, risk assessment, and partnership with external agencies; oversees reviews and improvements.

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): leads decision-making on concerns; records and information-sharing; liaises with LA Prevent/Channel, Children's Social Care and Police; advises staff.

All staff and regular volunteers: model British values; stay vigilant; raise concerns **immediately**; record accurately; follow device/visitor rules; work respectfully with families.