



EDClass PREVENT Policy

POL081

Issue number 1

Approved by Sam Warnes

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Introduction

EDClass is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all learners accessing its platform. In accordance with Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, EDClass exercises "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism" (the Prevent duty).

Because EDClass provides online alternative provision, distance learning, and remote intervention for vulnerable students—including those accessing flexible seats, off-site packages, part-time timetables, isolation, and inclusion support—the platform must maintain rigorous digital and procedural safeguards. This policy applies to all staff, contractors, partner schools/trusts, and remote learners.

Key Legislation and Statutory Framework

This policy operates within the requirements of:

- ✓ The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (CTSA)
- ✓ Revised Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales
- ✓ Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE)
- ✓ Working Together to Safeguard Children
- ✓ Channel Duty Guidance
- ✓ The Education Act 2002 (Section 175)

Governance, Roles and Responsibilities

Organisational Hierarchy and Escalation

- ✓ **Head of Safeguarding (Kim) / DSL:** Holds overall executive accountability for Prevent compliance, risk assessments, staff training, Channel referrals, and multi-agency liaison. Holds operational seniority over the SEND department regarding child protection and radicalisation risks.
- ✓ **Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSLs):** Manage live platform alerts, keyword flags, and immediate student welfare escalations during operating hours.
- ✓ **Head of SEND and Inclusion Team:** Collaborates with the Safeguarding Lead to evaluate contextual vulnerabilities for neuro diverse students or learners with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) who may be susceptible to exploitation.
- ✓ **Teaching and Support Staff:** Maintain vigilance across text chats, webcam feeds, forum submissions, and work uploads; log all concerns via the internal safeguarding logging mechanism immediately.

Platform-Specific Risk Assessment (Remote and Digital Learning)

EDClass recognises that remote learners encounter distinct vulnerabilities compared to traditional classroom settings:

Risk Vector	Platform Vulnerability	EDClass Mitigation Strategy
Social Isolation and Disengagement	Learners out of mainstream school (detention, medical, exclusion) may seek identity or belonging online.	Live tutor visibility, proactive pastoral welfare checks, automated attendance and inactivity tracking alerts.
Digital Chat and Content Sharing	Extremist narratives, symbols, memes, or grooming introduced into live text chats or file uploads.	Filtered text interfaces, algorithmic keyword/phrase screening, secure firewalls, and manual chat moderation.
Webcam and Audio Exposure	Background exposure to radicalising materials, symbols, or external coercive influencers during video feeds.	Supervised sessions, tutor monitoring guidelines, immediate stream cut-off capabilities, and recording/auditing of live sessions.
Multi-School Shared Seats	Seat rotation across diverse cohorts (IAP, isolation, SEND) risks disjointed profile histories.	Centralised safeguarding logs linked to student profile IDs rather than generic login seats, ensuring unbroken audit trails.

Identifying Indicators of Radicalisation and Extremism

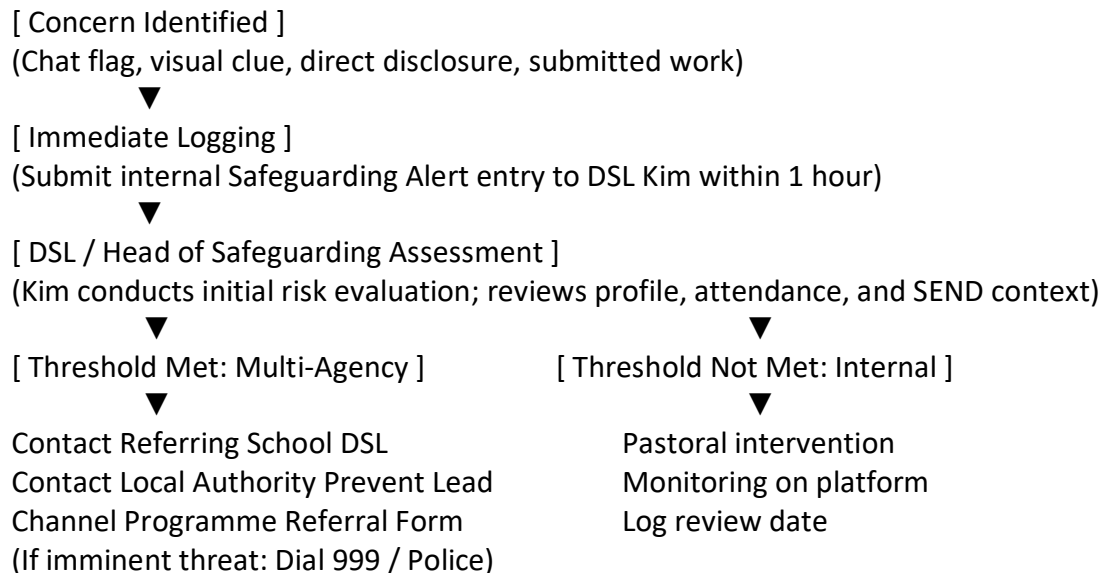
Staff must stay alert to behavioural, linguistic, and emotional changes, including:

- ✓ **Ideological Expression:** Expressing support for violent extremism, banned organisations, far-right nationalism, extreme misogynistic ideologies, or faith-based extremism.
- ✓ **Symbolism and Language:** Using hate speech, discriminatory slurs, or displaying extremist symbols/clothing during camera sessions.
- ✓ **Behavioural Shifts:** Sudden withdrawal, rejection of previously held values, hostility toward diverse groups, or an aggressive fixation on conspiracy theories.
- ✓ **Online Preoccupation:** Talking about secret online forums, encrypted chat networks, or spending unhealthy amounts of unsupervised time in radicalised gaming spaces.

- ✓ **Grievance Exploitation:** Channelling legitimate personal grievances, discrimination, or feelings of rejection into extremist rationalisations.

Incident Reporting and Referral Procedures

Staff must treat Prevent concerns with the same urgency as any critical child protection matter.



- ✓ **Detection:** Staff member notices red flag and documents precise factual details (dates, exact language, screenshots).
- ✓ **Notification:** Staff member informs the **Head of Safeguarding (Kim)** or designated on-duty DDSL without delay.
- ✓ **Partnership Liaison:** Because EDClass provides alternative provision commissioned by schools, local authorities, and academies, the DSL liaises immediately with the **home school's Designated Safeguarding Lead**.
- ✓ **Channel Referral:** If risk of radicalisation is identified, the DSL completes the local authority Prevent/Channel referral in collaboration with the commissioning school and relevant police Prevent officers.

Curriculum and Promoting Fundamental British Values

EDClass embeds proactive resilience against extremism throughout its learning provision:

- ✓ **British Values Integration:** Explicit lessons and themes reinforcing Democracy, the Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, and Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.
- ✓ **Critical Digital Literacy:** Teaching students how to evaluate source credibility, spot disinformation, recognise online propaganda, and report inappropriate content safely.

- ✓ **Personal Development and PSHE:** Dedicated modules addressing radicalisation risks, community cohesion, and protective strategies (e.g., age-appropriate "Run, Hide, Tell" principles).

Training and Quality Assurance

- ✓ **Induction:** All new staff complete mandatory Prevent training and the EDClass Online Safeguarding Induction prior to working with students.
- ✓ **Refresher Cycles:** Annual refresher training on the Prevent duty and emerging online extremist trends, aligned with KCSIE annual revisions.
- ✓ **DSL/DDSL Specialist Training:** The Head of Safeguarding and DDSLs undertake specialised multi-agency Prevent lead training and Channel chair/referral workshops.
- ✓ **Auditing:** Safeguarding audits and keyword alert logs are reviewed termly by leadership to identify platform trends and update threat filtering configurations.