December 2025 EDITION

TOTAL TOPICS

Apprenticeship Survey

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TOTAL TRAINING PROVISION

TOPIC OF THE MONTH

Prevent, Radicalisation & Extremism

Prevent
What is it?

Prevent is part of the UK's CONTEST counter-terrorism strategy. Its purpose is to stop people from being drawn into terrorism or supporting extremist ideas.

Prevent is not about spying or stopping free speech—it's about keeping people safe and offering support early when someone is at risk.

Extremism
What is it?

Extremism means:
· Holding extreme views that oppose common values like democracy, respect, and individual liberty.
· These views may encourage:

- **hatred**
- **discrimination**
- **violence**
- **rejection of the law**

Examples include:
· Far-right extremism
· Islamist extremism
· Extremist conspiracy groups
· Hate groups targeting race, gender, sexuality, religion

UK Statistics

Prevent Referrals (2023/24)

In 2023/24, there were 6,811 Prevent referrals across the UK, with 50% involving young people aged 15–20. Far-right concerns accounted for 27%, Islamist extremism for 14%, and 38% involved mixed or unclear ideologies, the fastest-growing category. Only 16% of referrals progressed beyond initial screening, showing that Prevent mainly acts as an early safeguarding tool rather than a criminal process.

Online Radicalisation

More than 80% of radicalisation cases now involve online contact, often through YouTube, TikTok, Instagram and gaming platforms. Young people are especially vulnerable, with the average first exposure at age 14. Although over 100,000 extremist posts are removed each year, content spreads quickly, and algorithms can show extremist material in under 60 seconds, making digital awareness and resilience vital.

(Latest Confirmed Home Office Data)

Radicalisation?
What is it?

Radicalisation is the process where someone begins to adopt extremist ideas or beliefs. It often happens gradually and can be influenced by online content, peer pressure, manipulation, or feelings such as anger, grievance, isolation, loneliness, or trauma. Both young people and adults can be targeted, especially when they feel vulnerable, are searching for a sense of belonging, or are unsure about their identity.

Prevent, Radicalisation & Extremism

Health & Wellbeing

Good physical, emotional and mental wellbeing helps protect individuals from grooming, manipulation and radicalisation. When people feel supported, connected and confident, they are less likely to be drawn into harmful groups or extreme ideologies. Promoting wellbeing—through positive relationships, resilience, support networks and open conversations—helps learners recognise risks, ask for help, and stay safe both online and offline.

Physical Health

Physical health plays an important role in protecting people from the risks of radicalisation. When someone is under severe stress, exhausted, or neglecting their basic needs, they may feel more vulnerable to harmful influences. Poor sleep, lack of exercise, and constant tension can make it harder to think clearly, manage emotions, or make balanced decisions.

Maintaining good physical health — through regular activity, nutritious food, and proper rest — helps build resilience. When the body feels strong and energised, it becomes easier to cope with difficult situations, recognise manipulation, and stay grounded. Taking care of your physical wellbeing supports clearer thinking and creates a stronger foundation against extremist messages that prey on vulnerability.

Health & Wellbeing

Strong wellbeing is one of the most effective protective factors against radicalisation. People who feel connected, valued, and confident are less likely to be influenced by extremist ideas. Supportive relationships with friends, family, colleagues, or community groups help reduce feelings of isolation — a common factor exploited by extremist recruiters.

Emotional wellbeing also grows through healthy coping strategies, open conversations, and learning to manage stress. Encouraging critical thinking, celebrating personal achievements, and seeking help when needed all strengthen resilience. For many people, especially men who may feel pressure to stay silent, talking about emotions can make a significant difference.

Preventing radicalisation isn't just about recognising risks — it's about creating balance, staying connected, and building environments where people feel safe and supported. When wellbeing is strong, individuals are better equipped to challenge harmful views and make positive, informed choices.

Prevent, Radicalisation & Extremism

EDI & British Values

British Values—democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance—work alongside Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) to create a safe, respectful environment. When we promote acceptance, fairness and inclusion, we reduce the risks of hate, discrimination and extremist influence. Prevent aligns with BV and EDI because all three aim to protect individuals, celebrate diversity, challenge harmful ideologies, and ensure everyone has the freedom to learn, work and live safely without fear of discrimination or radicalisation.

Safeguarding & Prevent

December 2025 EDITION
TOTAL TOPICS

Preventing radicalisation and extremism is closely linked to safeguarding. Safeguarding isn't only about physical protection — it also involves recognising emotional vulnerabilities that may make someone more at risk of harmful influences. Understanding the signs that a person is struggling, feeling isolated, or searching for belonging helps us identify concerns early, offer the right support, and create safe, resilient environments where individuals are less likely to be drawn toward extremist ideas.

Find out more about safeguarding at TTP here and how you can report a concern.

Why Is Prevent Part of Safeguarding?

Prevent is a safeguarding duty—the goal is to protect people from harm.
Radicalisation is a form of abuse, just like:

- **Grooming**
- **Financial exploitation**
- **Sexual exploitation**
- **Emotional manipulation**

Safeguarding means noticing concerns early and making sure people get support. In training providers, Prevent is everyone's responsibility

Key Message for All Learners

If someone is at risk of radicalisation, they are not criminals—they are vulnerable individuals in need of support, guidance, and safety.

Differences in Messaging: 16–18 vs 19+ Learners

For 16–18 Year Olds

- **You may be more active on social media, gaming platforms, or chatrooms.**
- **Extremist groups often target young people online because they can be influenced easily.**
- **Prevent protects you the same way online safety, anti-bullying, and safeguarding do.**
- **If someone online tries to influence your beliefs or encourages you to break the law, it is grooming, not "friendship."**

If you feel pressured, scared, or confused—talk to a trusted adult, Skills Coach or DSL.

For Adults (19+)

- **Adults can also be vulnerable, especially during stress, unemployment, or crisis.**
- **Online misinformation, conspiracy groups, or political chatrooms can influence thoughts gradually.**
- **Prevent support is voluntary, confidential, and designed to help you stay safe.**

Extremist grooming can happen to anyone—Prevent provides early intervention and support services through the Channel Programme.

Digital

December 2025 EDITION
TOTAL TOPICS

Digital spaces play a major role in how radicalisation develops, as extremists use social media, gaming platforms, private chats and even AI-manipulated content to influence vulnerable individuals. Young people can be drawn in through subtle online interactions, emotionally charged videos, or "mentors" who offer belonging and secret knowledge. Recognising early online warning signs and understanding the tactics used by extremist groups helps build digital resilience and prevents harmful ideologies from taking hold.

How Radicalisation Happens Online

Extremists and recruiters may use:

- **TikTok, Instagram, Snapchat** (short-form messaging, memes)
- **YouTube & podcasts** (commentary content that leads to extremism)
- **Online games** (private chats, voice channels, clan recruitment)
- **Discord/Telegram** (encrypted messaging)
- **AI deepfakes and manipulated videos**

Red Flags Online

- **Sudden interest in conspiracy theories**
- **Joining online groups promoting hate**
- **Sharing extremist memes or jokes**

Digital Grooming Tactics Extremists Use

- **"You're not being told the truth by adults/government."**
- **"Join us and be part of something powerful."**
- **"We're the only ones who understand you."**

What Are the Signs Someone May Be at Risk?

Behavioural Signs

- **Sudden changes in friends, beliefs, or identity**
- **Anger, aggression, or feeling persecuted**
- **Obsession with extremist symbols, groups, or causes**

Digital Signs

- **Joining extremist chatrooms**
- **Sharing extremist content**
- **Following radical groups online**

Emotional Signs

- **Feeling isolated or bullied**
- **Seeking revenge**
- **Feeling misunderstood or desperate for belonging**

The Total Topic

Inclusivity Calendar

December 2025

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1 National Grief Week World AIDS Day	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Pansexual Pride Day	9	10 Human Rights Day	11	12	13	14 Hannukah 14th-22nd (Jewish)
15	16	17	18 International Migrants Day	19	20	21
22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27	28
29	30	31 New Years Eve				