

Get help for radicalisation concerns

About Prevent

Prevent is a national programme that aims to stop people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. It works to ensure that people who are susceptible to radicalisation are offered appropriate interventions, and communities are protected against radicalising influences.

Radicalisation can happen when a person develops extreme views or beliefs that support terrorist groups or activities.

There are different types of terrorism, and Prevent deals with all of them.

The most common types of terrorism in the UK are Extreme Right-Wing terrorism and Islamist terrorism.

Find out more about [what terrorism means](#).

Prevent is run locally by experts who understand the risks and issues in their area, and how best to support their communities. These experts include local authorities, the police, charities and community organisations.

Learn more about Prevent from the people involved:

Understand why Prevent is important to reduce terrorism

Terrorism has a devastating impact on victims, their families and communities. Many lives have been lost to terrorist attacks in the UK, and even more people have been injured.

People can commit a terrorist offence even if they have not carried out a terrorist attack. Downloading terrorist materials from the internet or joining a [terrorist group](#) could be a terrorist offence. Find out more about [what terrorism means](#).

By getting advice or support from Prevent, you can help to stop the person you are worried about becoming a danger to themselves or others.

If there is immediate danger, call 999.

Key principles of Prevent

The Key Principles of Prevent have been created to clearly explain Prevent's purpose and to help everyone better understand its main aims. These principles should be taken into consideration if you are concerned that someone you know could be on a pathway to terrorism and want to submit a Prevent referral.

See the [key principles of Prevent](#) for more information.

Spot the signs of radicalisation

Radicalisation can happen both in person or online.

Everyone is different, and there is no checklist that can tell us if someone is being radicalised or becoming involved in terrorism. But these signs may mean someone is being radicalised:

- accessing extremist content online or downloading propaganda material
- justifying the use of violence to solve societal issues
- altering their style of dress or appearance to accord with an extremist group
- being unwilling to engage with people who they see as different
- using certain symbols associated with terrorist organisations

What to do if you're worried about someone

Try to speak with them

If it's somebody that you know well, try talking to them about what you've noticed if you feel comfortable doing so.

Find advice on how to do this:

- for talking to friends and family on the [ACT Early website](#)
- for those working in schools on the [Educate Against Hate website](#)

Be aware that your concern might not be welcome at first, and the person may get angry or defensive. You could try talking to other family and friends to see if they have noticed anything similar before getting expert advice.

Ask for advice

If you are worried that someone you know is being radicalised, ask for advice as soon as possible:

- visit the [ACT Early website](#)

The earlier you ask for advice, the sooner you can help to stop that person becoming a danger to themselves or others. Anything you share will always be in confidence.

After talking to someone about your worries, you may be asked to help create a referral to the Prevent programme.