Grass Roots Nursery Group: Promoting British Values and Prevent Duty Policy

1. Purpose and Statement of Intent

At Grass Roots Nursery Group, we are committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment where every child feels valued, listened to, and empowered to thrive.

This policy outlines how we actively embed fundamental British values into our daily early years practice and fulfil our statutory duties under the **Prevent Duty** (Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015), *Keeping Children Safe in Education* (KCSIE), *Working Together to Safeguard Children*, and the *Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)* statutory framework.

2. Statutory Frameworks & Regulatory Responsibilities

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Requirements

We fulfil our statutory duties by:

- Promoting equality, inclusion, and anti-discriminatory practice for all children and families.
- Supporting children's Personal, Social, and Emotional Development (PSED), emotional co-regulation, and sense of belonging.
- Operating robust safeguarding procedures to identify, support, and protect children at risk of harm or exploitation.
- Working in transparent partnership with parents/carers, local authorities, and multi-agency safeguarding partners.
- Delivering a rich, diverse curriculum that reflects modern Britain and encourages positive social values.

Prevent Duty Requirements

Under the statutory Prevent Duty guidance for early years providers, Grass Roots Nursery Group must:

- Maintain robust, child-centred safeguarding policies that identify radicalisation and susceptibility to extreme ideologies as core safeguarding risks.
- Ensure all staff undergo regular Prevent training to recognise the risk factors, behavioral indicators, and vulnerability markers associated with radicalisation.
- Maintain clear reporting pathways via the **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)** and secure logging on **CPOMS**.
- Enforce strict online safety, digital filtering, and device supervision controls to prevent exposure to harmful or radicalising content.
- Collaborate proactively with Calderdale Council, local Prevent officers, and the Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership (CSCP).

3. Our Educational Approach & The Think Equal Programme

Integrating Calderdale's Think Equal Programme

As part of our commitment to emotional literacy, social justice, and equality, Grass Roots Nursery Group embeds the **Think Equal** programme across our early years settings in partnership with Calderdale.

Through narrative-led learning, guided discussions, and evidence-based activities, Think Equal directly reinforces PSED, co-regulation, and fundamental British values by teaching children:

- **Empathy & Critical Thinking**: Understanding diverse perspectives, recognising emotions in themselves and others, and developing compassionate problem-solving skills.
- **Gender Equality & Anti-Bias**: Challenging harmful stereotypes and fostering equal opportunities and respect regardless of gender, ethnicity, background, or ability.
- **Inclusion & Peaceful Conflict Resolution**: Learning how to navigate disagreements constructively, value differences, and build harmonious relationships within the setting and wider community.

Promoting Fundamental British Values in Daily Practice

A. Democracy: Making Decisions Together

- **Child-Led Choices**: Children are encouraged to express their preferences, choose play resources, and participate in shared decision-making (e.g., voting on storybooks or activity themes).
- **Valuing Every Voice**: Practitioners model active listening, encouraging children to share their feelings, respect diverse opinions, and understand that everyone's voice matters.

B. Rule of Law: Boundaries, Fairness & Co-Regulation

- **Consistent Boundaries**: Practitioners use positive behavior support, **Think Equal** principles, and **Emotion Coaching** to help children understand rules, safe boundaries, and the impact of their actions on others.
- **Fairness & Turn-Taking**: Children learn about sharing, fairness, and taking turns through cooperative play and routine group activities.

C. Individual Liberty: Freedom for Everyone

- **Self-Confidence & Independence**: We foster self-knowledge and independence, encouraging children to take age-appropriate risks, try new experiences, and celebrate personal achievements.
- **Safe Self-Expression**: Children are supported to develop a strong sense of identity and express their feelings, choices, and ideas in a safe, non-judgemental environment.

D. Mutual Respect & Tolerance: Celebrating Diversity

- **Inclusion & Anti-Bias**: We create an environment where cultural heritage, family structures, languages, and beliefs are welcomed and celebrated.
- **Challenging Stereotypes**: Utilising **Think Equal** resources, play materials, and stories to represent modern British society and actively challenge gender, cultural, or social stereotypes.
- **Community Engagement**: Children participate in local community walks, allotment visits, and

cultural celebrations to develop empathy and world awareness.

4. Prevent Duty Procedures & Risk Management

Staff Vigilance & Vulnerability Indicators

Staff must remain alert to indicators that a child or their family may be vulnerable to radicalisation, grooming, or violent extremism. Indicators may include:

- Sudden shifts in family behaviour, expression of extreme or harmful views, or hate speech.
- A child displaying sudden changes in emotional well-being, distress, or mimicking extremist language/symbols.
- Isolation from peers, family withdrawal, or unexplainable changes in attendance patterns.
- Access to unmonitored online content or harmful digital media outside the setting.

Digital Safety & Online Filtering

- Children are strictly supervised during any digital technology use.
- Setting Wi-Fi networks incorporate robust digital filtering and firewall protection to block inappropriate, harmful, or extremist content.
- Smart devices, personal phones, and unauthorized equipment are strictly prohibited in child-facing spaces.

5. Referral & Reporting Pathways

1. **Immediate CPOMS Logging**: Any practitioner who observes indicators or has a concern regarding radicalisation or extreme views must record a factual, chronological account on **CPOMS** immediately.
2. **DSL Notification**: The concern must be escalated directly to the **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)** without delay.
3. **Multi-Agency Escalation**:
    - **Calderdale Multi-Agency Screening Team (MAST)**: Phone: **01422 393336** (Out of Hours Emergency Duty Team: **01422 288000**).
    - **Calderdale Prevent Team**: Email: **prevent@calderdale.gov.uk** | Tel: **01422 656834**.
    - **Police Non-Emergency / National Prevent Advice**: Call **101** or the Police Anti-Terrorism Hotline on **0800 789 321**.
    - **Immediate Danger**: Dial **999** if a child or individual is at immediate risk of serious harm.

6. Roles and Responsibilities

All Nursery Staff

- Model British values, mutual respect, and inclusive behaviors in daily interactions, actively delivering the **Think Equal** curriculum.
- Complete mandatory Safeguarding and Prevent Duty training during induction and via annual refreshers.
- Remain vigilant for safeguarding risks and report any concerns immediately to the DSL via

CPOMS.

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

- Lead on all Prevent Duty and radicalisation concerns across the nursery group.
- Maintain accurate, confidential records on CPOMS and liaise with Calderdale MAST, Prevent officers, and police where appropriate.
- Oversee staff Prevent training and ensure setting risk assessments reflect local threat levels.

Nursery Managers & Leadership Team

- Ensure British values, **Think Equal**, and Prevent Duty requirements are integrated across room curriculums and setting operations.
- Oversee internet safety filtering and physical device controls across all sites.
- Maintain active communication with the Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership (CSCP).