

Understanding the Implementation of Prevent Duty in Durham County Schools

LIDLAW LEADERSHIP AND RESEARCH PROGRAMME

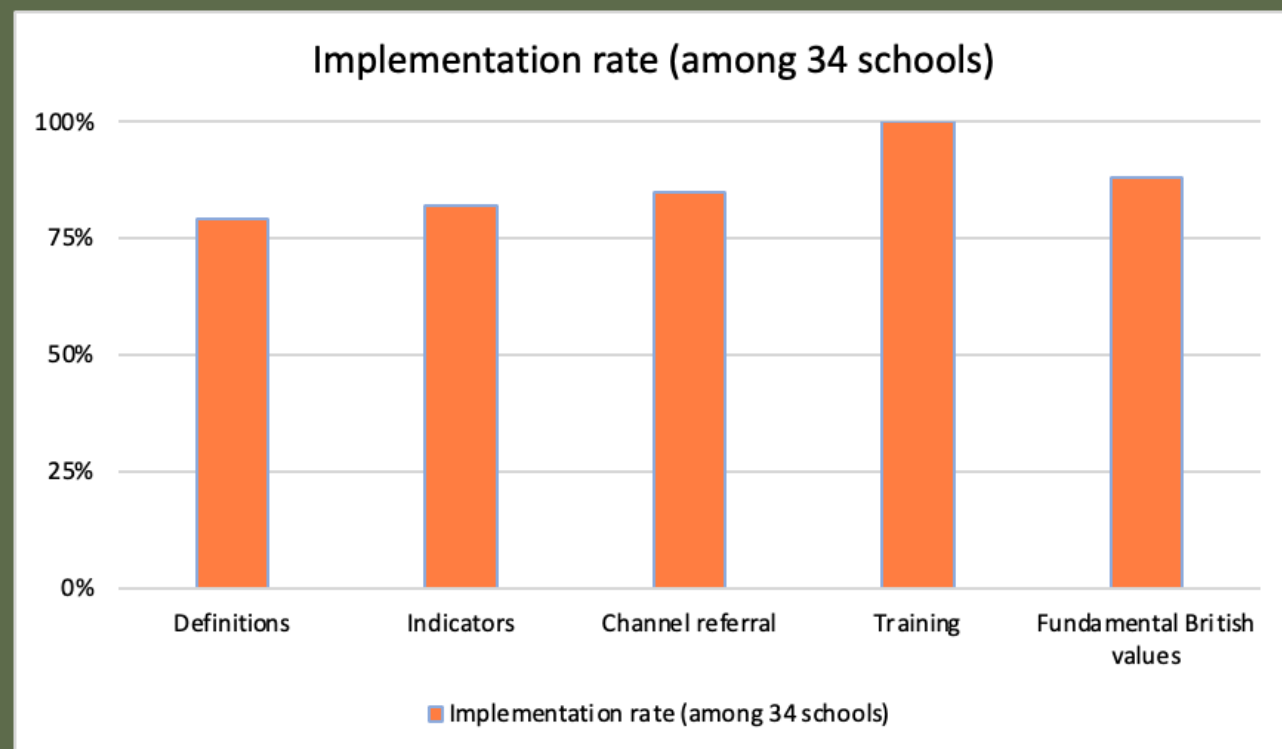
Research Aims

1. Determining the extent schools rely on central government guidance to operationalise Prevent obligations
2. Identifying trends and potential issues arising from implementation

Methodology

- Primary focus on secondary schools for students (11 to 19yo)
- Looking out for 5 key data points
 - Definitions (radicalisation, extremism & terrorism)
 - Indicators of radicalisation
 - Prevent/Channel referral
 - Training
 - Fundamental British Values
- Comparisons between old & new policies where available

Findings



IDENTIFIED ISSUES:

- **Trusts & Identical Policies**
 - 65% of schools had identical policies with most coming from schools being in the same trust
 - Possibly attributed to fear of Ofsted inspections
 - Some schools hired external policy providers like Clennell Education Solutions to draft their safeguarding policies
 - Identical & pre-made policies suffer from an implementation lag - unable to keep up with a dynamic issue like terrorism/radicalisation
 - Issue of wrong interpretations
- **Risk Assessment (lack of)**
 - Only undertaken by 1 school
 - Possibly attributed to it not being compulsory
 - Radicalisation differs from county-county, school-school, a personalised risk-assessment will help identify areas of concern (e.g. North and right-wing extremism)
 - Directly contributes to the focal point of Prevent - early intervention
- **'Updated' documents**
 - 15 schools updated their policies during research review
 - Poor updates with little to no changes even with new guidances published
 - Central government's efforts and aim remain unimplemented
- **SEND pupils & special schools**
 - More vulnerable students are identified to be more susceptible to radicalisation
 - All schools researched have SEND sections & 7 specifically identified 'special' schools
 - Provides customised/tailored education policies but none for safeguarding and prevent implementation

