

# **PREVENT**

*Keeping Children Safe from Radicalisation*

## **Information for parents and carers**

### **What is Prevent?**

Prevent is a government strategy designed to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorist or extremist causes.

The Prevent strategy covers all types of terrorism and extremism, including the extreme right wing, violent groups and other causes.

### **How does the Prevent Strategy apply to schools?**

All schools (as well as other organisations) have a duty to safeguard children from radicalisation and extremism.

This means we have a responsibility to protect children from extremist and violent views in the same way that we protect them from drugs or gang violence.

Importantly, we can provide a safe place for pupils to discuss these issues so they better understand how to protect themselves.

### **What does this mean in practice?**

Many of the things we already do in school to help children become positive, happy members of society also contribute to the Prevent strategy.

These include:

- Exploring other cultures and religions and promoting diversity;
- Challenging prejudices and racist comments;
- Developing critical thinking skills and a strong, positive self-identity;
- Promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils, as well as British values such as democracy.

We will also protect children from the risk of radicalisation, for example by using filters on the internet to make sure that they cannot access extremist and terrorist material, or by vetting visitors who come into school to work with the pupils.

*Different schools will carry out the Prevent duty in different ways, depending on the age of the children and the needs of the community.*

## Frequently asked questions

### ***How does Prevent relate to British Values?***

All schools are required to promote British Values, and this will continue to be part of our response to the Prevent strategy.

British values include:

- Democracy
- The Rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

(For more information see our British values policy on the school website)

### ***Isn't my child too young to learn about extremism?***

The Prevent strategy is not just about discussing extremism itself, which may not be appropriate for younger children. It is also about teaching children values such as tolerance and mutual respect.

The school will make sure any discussions are suitable for the age and maturity of the children involved.

### ***Is extremism really a risk in our area?***

Extremism can take any forms, including political, religious or misogynistic extremism. Some of these may be a bigger threat in some areas than others.

We will give the children the skills to protect them from any extremist views they encounter, now or later in their lives.

### ***Who do I talk to if I have any concerns?***

If you have any concerns about radicalisation, please contact the Headteacher on 01158 476787.

## Further Information

### **Contact the school**

If you have any questions or concerns about the Prevent Strategy and what it means for your child, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

### **External Sources**

NSPCC

[www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

The NSPCC is the UK's leading children's charity, preventing abuse and helping those affected to recover.

### **Educate against Hate [www.educateagainsthate.com](http://www.educateagainsthate.com)**

This website gives parents practical advice on protecting children from extremism and radicalisation.

