Prevent Duty

Information for Parents

We would like to inform you about the Government strategy called 'Prevent'. From July 2015 all schools (as well as other organisations) had a duty to keep children safe from radicalisation and extremism.

We have found the Educate Against Hate website really informative and hope that the information is of use to our parents. https://educateagainsthate.com/

What is Prevent Strategy?

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 Islamist groups and other causes.

How does the Prevent strategy apply to schools?

From July 2015 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 the same way 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 law and order. We will also protect children from the risk of radicalisation, for example by using filters on the internet to make sure they cannot access extremist and terrorist material, or by vetting visitors who come into school to work with 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.

Key Terms

* **Extremism** – vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values such as democracy, the rule of law and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs
* **Ideology** – a set of beliefs
* **Terrorism** - a violent action against people or property, designed to create fear and advance a political, religious or ideological cause.
* **Radicalisation** – the pro cess by which a person comes to support extremism and terrorism

Frequently asked questions

How does prevent relate to British values?

Schools have been requires to promote British Values since 2014, and this will continue to be part of our response to the Prevent Strategy

British Values include:
- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty and mutual respect
- Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

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 many forms, including political religious and misogynistic extremism. Some of this may be a bigger threat in our area than others.

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

Where to go for more information

Contact the school if you have any questions or concerns about the Prevent strategy and what it means for your child.

See our policies – you will find more details about radicalisation in our safeguarding policy which is available on the school website under policies.

External sources

The following sources may also be useful for further information:

Prevent duty guidance for England and Wales, HM government https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protecting-children-from-radicalisation-the-prevent-duty

What is Prevent? Let's talk about it. http://www.ltai.info/