

## What is the 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 groups and other causes.

## How does the Prevent strategy apply to schools?

From July 2015 all schools (as well as other organisations) have had 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 resilient, empowered, have integrity, a sense of belonging and happy members of the community, also contribute to the Prevent strategy.

These include:

- Exploring other cultures and religions and promoting diversity
- Challenging prejudices and racist comments, supported by our Single Equality Scheme
- Developing critical thinking skills and a strong, positive self-identity

- Promoting British values and the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

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

## Frequently Asked Questions

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

Schools have been required to promote British values since 2014, and this will continue to be part of our response to the Prevent strategy.

The Department for Education have recently reinforced the need to “create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of:

- Democracy
  - the rule of law
- individual liberty and mutual respect
- tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.”

It is expected that pupils should understand that while different people may hold different views about what is ‘right’ and ‘wrong’, all people living in England are subject to its law.

### 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 process by which a person comes to support extremism and terrorism

## Our School Values

Our community is **loving, peaceful** and **joyful**.

We are **patient** and **kind**.

We **respect** and value everyone.

We are open and **honest** and are ready to say sorry, **forgive** and move on.

We nurture each other to **trust, hope** and be **resilient** in the face of fear and anxiety.

We embrace **challenge** and support each other to get back up when challenges can knock us.

**We do this as we journey together in faith.**

These twelve values that are integral to our community help us ensure that;

- we teach children that democracy, rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance are upheld in our communities as universal human rights for every citizen
- we teach children that intelligence is not fixed, that humans can develop ‘growth mindsets’ (to think about thinking and to learn about learning) that support a lifelong love of learning
- everyone learns together, with each other and from each other

## **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 these may be a bigger threat in some areas than others, but it is highly unlikely that no area is unaffected by some form of extremism. We will give pupils 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, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

### **Read our policies**

You can find more details about radicalisation in our Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation Policy available on our website, along with links to the Department for Education guidance on the Prevent Duty and Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development.

## **External sources**

Let's Talk About It  
<http://www.ltai.info/>

Prevent For Schools  
<http://www.preventforschools.org/>

If you have any concern about a child at St Mary and St Peter Catholic Primary School you should immediately report this to a member of staff.

If you feel a child is at risk, or may be the subject of abuse or who might be vulnerable to or at risk of radicalisation, you should contact the designated safeguarding leaders who are:

- **Mrs V Long**  
**Headteacher**
- **Mrs K Ricketts**  
**Deputy Headteacher**
- **Miss L McGregor**  
**Pastoral Mentor**
- **Miss L Kent**  
**Pastoral Mentor**
- **Mrs S Peary**  
**Parent Support Advisor**



***Journeying Together in Faith***

# **Prevent Strategy**

## **Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation**