

The Government's 'Prevent' Strategy



What is the Prevent strategy?

This is a government strategy designed to stop people becoming radicalised and either supporting or joining terrorist or extremist causes. It covers all types of terrorism and extremism, including the extreme right wing, religious extremists and other causes.

How does the Prevent strategy apply to schools?

From July 2015 all schools 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 we protect them from drugs or abuse. 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?

The work we do in school to help children become positive, happy members of society already contributes to the Prevent strategy. This is done through the curriculum and through our assembly programme and includes:

- Exploring other cultures and religions and promoting diversity.
- Promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils, as well as the fundamental values of freedom, democracy, the rule of law, equality and tolerance.
- Challenging any prejudice.
- Developing critical thinking skills and a strong, positive self-identity.

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

Frequently Asked Questions

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 essentially about teaching and instilling strong values such as those outlined above. 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. Nowhere is immune from these issues. We will give children the skills to protect them from any extremist views that they may encounter, both now and later in their lives.

<p>Key terms</p> <p>Extremism – vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values such as democracy, the rule of law and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs</p> <p>Ideology – a set of beliefs</p> <p>Terrorism – a violent action against people or property, designed to create fear and advance a political, religious or ideological cause</p> <p>Radicalisation – the process by which a person comes to support extremism and terrorism</p>	<p>Where to go for more information</p> <p>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.</p> <p>External sources The following sources may also be useful for further information:</p> <p>Prevent duty guidance: for England and Wales, HM Government https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/417943/Prevent_Duty_Guidance_England_Wales.pdf</p> <p>Frequently asked questions, Prevent For Schools http://www.preventforschools.org/?category_id=38</p> <p>What is Prevent? Let's Talk About It http://www.ltai.info/what-is-prevent/</p>
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