

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 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 any safeguarding concerns.

School can provide a safe place for pupils to discuss these, and any other 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

Our children are also protected 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.

How does prevent relate to British values?

Schools have been required to promote British values since 2014 and they are closely linked to the Prevent strategy.

British values include:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty and mutual respect
- Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

Are children in Early Years too young to learn about extremism?

The Prevent strategy is not just about discussing extremism itself, it is also about teaching children values such as tolerance and respect.

Embedded in our EYFS curriculum:

- Children should develop a positive sense of themselves.
- Children feel safe and confident to try things, have a go, take risks.
- Staff can provide opportunities for children to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and increase their confidence in their own abilities.
- Staff should encourage a range of experiences that allow children to explore the language of feelings and responsibility, reflect on their differences and understand we are free to have different opinions.

(Reference: Fundamental British Values in the Early Years, 4Children)

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

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.

See our policies

You will find more details about radicalisation in our Child Protection policy, on our website.

We also have information about British values.

Details about all aspects of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum can be found on our website www.kingswood.herts.sch.uk

External sources

The following sources may also be useful for further information:

Revised Prevent duty guidance for England and Wales, HM Government GOV.UK

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/445977/3799_Revised_Prevent_Duty_Guidance_England_Wales_V2-Interactive.pdf

The Prevent duty Departmental advice for schools and childcare providers June 2015 DfE

<http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2015/06/prevent-duty-departmental-advice.pdf>

What is Prevent? Let's Talk About It

<http://www.ltai.info/>

The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 -Statutory Duties

School leaders (including governors) must:

- establish or use existing mechanisms for understanding the risk of extremism
- ensure staff understand the risk and build capabilities to deal with it
- communicate and promote the importance of the duty
- ensure staff implement the duty effectively

Other duties on schools include:

- effective partnership working with other local agencies e.g. LSCB, police, health etc
- information sharing
- maintaining appropriate records
- assessing local risk of extremism (including Far Right extremism)
- demonstrating they are protecting children
- developing clear protocols for visiting speakers
- safeguarding policies that take account of LSCB policies and procedures
- training staff to give them knowledge and confidence
- ensuring their are robust ICT protocols that filter out extremist materials
- school buildings must not be used to give a platform to extremists

Parent, staff, governor pamphlet



Kingswood Early Years
Centre

Prevent Strategy

September 2017