

The PREVENT Strategy



Information for Parents

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. The government has defined extremism in the Prevent strategy as: *"vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs"*.

How does the Prevent strategy apply to schools?

From July 2015 all schools (including Nursery 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 and actively promote British Values.



The PREVENT Strategy

What does this mean in practice?

Many of the things we already do in school that help children to become positive, happy members of society contributes 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 risk by using filters on the internet to make sure they can't access inappropriate material, or by vetting visitors who come into school to work with pupils.

Frequently Asked Questions

How does Prevent relate to British values?

Schools have been required to promote British values since 2014, and this forms a core 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 is not appropriate for younger children. It is also about teaching children values such as tolerance and mutual respect.

How we promote British Values at Nursery

Examples of how we may promote British Values include:

Democracy: helping children to know their views count and encouraging them to talk about their feelings, for example when they do or do not need help. Staff will provide activities that involve turn-taking, sharing and collaboration allowing children to make decisions.

Rule of law: helping children to understand their own and others' behaviour and its consequences, and learn to distinguish right from wrong. Staff can collaborate with children to create school rules, for example, agreeing the rules about tidying up and ensuring that all children understand rules apply to everyone.

Individual liberty: providing opportunities to help children develop their self-esteem and increase their confidence in their own abilities, for example allowing children to take risks by tackling climbing equipment in the garden.

Mutual respect and tolerance: helping children to show a tolerance and appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures; to know about similarities and differences between themselves and others and share and talk about celebrations and experiences. Staff will explain the importance of tolerant behaviours such as sharing and respecting other's opinion and promote diverse attitudes and challenge stereotypes by sharing stories that reflect and value the diversity of children's experiences.

What we will **not** do:

- promote intolerance of other faiths, cultures and races
- fail to challenge gender stereotypes
- routinely segregate boys and girls
- fail to challenge behaviours (whether of staff, children or parents) that are not in line with the fundamental British values

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 speak to a member of senior staff.

See our policies

You will find more details about radicalisation in our safeguarding policy, available on our website.

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/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/417943/Prevent_Duty_Guidance_England_Wales.pdf

Frequently asked questions, Prevent For Schools
http://www.preventforschools.org/?category_id=38

What is Prevent? Let's Talk About It
<http://www.itai.info/what-is-prevent/>