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.

Prevent Lead: Miss E Murtagh (Headteacher)

See our policies

You will find more details about radicalisation in our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy on our website.

We also have important and relevant information within our Behaviour Policy, Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and the statement of our values and equality objectives. All can be found on our website or requested through the school office. (see p35-36 Protection and Safeguarding Policy and Appendix 2)

External sources

The following sources may also be useful for further information:

Prevent duty guidance: for England and Wales, HM Government www.homeoffice.gov.uk

Frequently asked questions, Prevent for Schools <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance</u>

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

The Prevent Strategy

Information for Parents



St Oswald's CE Primary

The Prevent Duty.

All schools and colleges are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counterterrorism and Security Act 2015 (the CTSA 2015), in the exercise of their functions, to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism". This duty is known as the Prevent duty. The Prevent duty should be seen as part of schools' wider safeguarding obligations. Designated safeguarding leads and other senior leaders should familiarise themselves with the <u>Revised Prevent</u> <u>duty guidance: for England and Wales</u>,

especially paragraphs 57-76 which are specifically, concerns with schools (and also covers childcare). The guidance is set out in terms of four general themes:

Risk assessment, working in partnership, staff training, and IT policies.

How does the Prevent strategy apply to schools?

This means we have a responsibility to protect children from extremist and violent views the same way we protect them from other dangers. Importantly, we can provide a safe place for pupils to discuss these issues so they better understand how to protect themselves. Channel is a programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being susceptible to being drawn into terrorism. It provides a mechanism for schools to make referrals if they are concerned that an individual might be susceptible to radicalisation. An individual's engagement with the programme is entirely voluntary at all stages. Guidance on Channel is available at: Channel Guidance, and a Channel awareness e-learning programme is available for staff at: Channel General Awareness. All concerns regarding radicalisation of pupils will follow the procedure identified in Appendix 6 of the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

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

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, 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

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.

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 these 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.