



The Prevent strategy

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 bullying and antisocial behaviours. Importantly, we 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 positive, happy members of society also contribute to the Prevent strategy. These include:

- Exploring other cultures and religions in class, assemblies and special events and promoting diversity;
- Always 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 and the rule of law;
- By using filters on the internet to make sure they cannot access extremist and terrorist materials and ensuring children never use the computers without supervision;
- By ensuring that all visitors who come into the school to work with pupils have a DBS check;
- By keeping our staff up to date with safeguarding information and training - all staff have had recent Safeguarding and Prevent training.

Key terms

- **Extremism** – vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values such as a 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.

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. You can find out about British Values at our school by looking on our school website under curriculum www.deanshangerprimary.co.uk. Feel free to come in and ask us about this, or any other part of our curriculum and school life.

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 and occurs in all areas of the country. We aim to give children 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 school if you have any questions or concerns about the Prevent strategy and what it means for your child.

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/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>

Prevent for schools

<http://www.preventforschools.org/>

Let's Talk About It

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

London Grid for Learning

<http://counterextremism.lgfl.org.uk/index.html>