

Federation of Shevington Primary Schools



Millbrook and Shevington Vale Primary School

Prevent Policy

Date: September 2024
Review Annually

PREVENT POLICY

HM Government has published guidance for authorities, including schools, on their responsibilities under the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act, which came into effect on 1 July 2015. Under the Act, schools and other authorities have a duty to “have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”.

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 other dangers. 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?

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 Fundamental British Values of Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect and Tolerance and Understanding of those with different faiths and those without faith.

In teaching pupils all about British Values it is hoped that we promote a love and understanding of all cultures and make pupils aware of the similarities that all people have in common.

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.

At Shevington Vale Primary School, we have developed our curriculum to positively promote British values and also to celebrate cultural differences with other communities around the world.

We also focus on British Values during our whole school assembly themes throughout each academic year and these are linked to all our work undertaken when promoting our own school values of Courage, Ambition, Respect and Excellence (CARE).

We are also undertaking the Lancashire Equality Mark accreditation to quality assure our provision to all members of the school community. Our work with Lancashire Interfaith Schools Project Building Bridges is further helping to raise pupils' understanding of the multi-cultural world in which we live.

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 about teaching children values such as tolerance and mutual respect. At Shevington Vale we approach this by celebrating different cultures and faiths and challenging stereotypical views.

The school will make sure any discussions are suitable for the age and maturity of the children involved. As always, if you wish to discuss any matter related to our curriculum approach, please do not hesitate to contact the school office, who will direct you to the most suitable member of staff to discuss your query.

Extremism can take many forms, including political, religious and misogynistic extremism and many others. Some of these may be a bigger threat in our area than others.

We will aim to give children the skills to protect them from any extremist views they may encounter, now or later in their lives.

Should we be concerned about a pupil's safeguarding in relation to extremism or radicalisation then this would be reported to Channel via our safeguarding procedures in school.

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 further information

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 duty guidance: for England and Wales, HM Government: _

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>

Prevent duty guidance for vulnerable pupils: <https://www.gov.uk/government/>

[publications/the-prevent-duty-safeguarding-](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-prevent-duty-safeguarding-)

[learners-vulnerable-to-radicalisation](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-prevent-duty-safeguarding-learners-vulnerable-to-radicalisation)

What is Prevent? Let's Talk About It

<http://www.ltai.info/what-is-prevent/>