

Springfield School is a safe school and that is the way we are going to keep it.

**The Prevent Strategy**

**Parent Leaflet**

**Where to go for more information**

**Contact Springfield 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 Academy.

**See our policies**

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

We also have information about spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and British values.

**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\_Guida nce\_England\_Wales.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/417943/Prevent_Duty_Guida%20nce_England_Wales.pdf)

Prevent for schools

http://www.preventforschools.org

What is Prevent? Let’s Talk About It

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

**At Springfield School:**

We believe that a child’s welfare is paramount

We believe that every child has a right to be protected from harm and exploitation and to have their welfare safeguarded

We believe that a child should develop a strong set of values that will guide them in making good choices as active citizens.

**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 extreme right wing groups, 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 drugs or gang violence.

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?**

 **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

Many of the things we already do in the 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 the 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.

**How can parents support?**

As parents, you can support school in ensuring that all members of the school community are treated with tolerance and respect and that the children are safeguarded from extremist views and radicalisation by:

• Ensuring that adults around your child promote tolerance and respect and do not espouse extremist views.

• Speaking to your child about events in the media in a balanced way and making links to fundamental values e.g. democracy and the rule of law

• Making school staff aware of any concerns in respect of your child, other children or other members of our school community.

**Frequently Asked Questions**

***How does Prevent relate to British values?***

School 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 the 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.