**PREVENT Strategy guide for parents**

**What is the PREVENT Strategy?**

[Prevent](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance) is a government strategy designed to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorist or extremist causes

The [Prevent Strategy](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance) covers all types of terrorism and extremism, including the extreme far-right wing and extreme Islamist groups.

* [Educate Against Hate](https://educateagainsthate.com/parents/) Government advice and trusted resources for parents to safeguard children from radicalisation, build resilience to all types of extremism and promote shared values

**How does the Prevent strategy apply to schools and parents?**

From July 2015 all 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 the same way we protect them from drugs or gang violence.

[The Prevent strategy](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance)is not just about discussing extremism itself, which may not be appropriate for younger children. However, it is about teaching children values such as tolerance, mutual respect, responsibility and consent.

Importantly, we can provide a safe place for pupils to discuss any issues, so they better understand how to protect themselves.

Children are spending more time than ever on social media and gaming platforms so it is no surprise that online grooming by extremists is on the rise. Young people are especially being targeted by groups and individuals promoting violence and hatred.

Helping your child be digitally savvy and knowing the signs of radicalisation will help keep them safe and protect them from potential risks.

[Netmums](https://www.netmums.com/act-early) have partnered with Counter Terrorism Policing to highlight their safeguarding website,

ACT Early, which is for parents, friends and families who are concerned about loved ones at risk of radicalisation.

<https://www.netmums.com/act-early>

You want your child to be happy and healthy and that means you already know the places you can get help and advice if they’re not well or are struggling at school. Support is also there if you’re worried your child is being radicalised or exploited by extremists.

<https://actearly.uk/>

* [Netmums poster 1](https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/dollis-primary-school/UploadedDocument/98aee6cd-885d-452b-95fe-dbb9527699e0/netmums-poster-1.pdf)
* [Netmums poster 2](https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/dollis-primary-school/UploadedDocument/bbcf986d-25ef-4b56-8ce7-7efdcd9ad9ab/netmums-poster-2.pdf)

**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?**

Since July 2015, all schools have had a duty to safeguard children and young people from radicalisation and extremism. This means we have a responsibility to protect our students from extremist and violent views. Importantly, we aim to provide a safe place for students to discuss these issues, if required, so they better understand how to protect themselves.

**What does this mean in practice?**

Many of these things we already do in school to help students become positive, happy members of society also contribute to the Prevent Strategy.

These include:

Exploring other cultures, religions and promoting diversity

Challenging prejudices and racists comments

Developing critical thinking skills and a strong, positive self-identity

Promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of students, as well as British values such as democracy.

Staff being aware of the vulnerable pupils within their cohort.

We also aim to protect students from the risk of radicalisation, for example, 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 students.

**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 young people values such as tolerance and mutual respect, responsibility and consent. The school will make sure any discussions are suitable for the age and maturity of the students involved.

**Is extremism really a risk in our area?**

Extremism can take many forms, including political, religious and misogynistic extremism. Some of these are a bigger threat in other areas. Our aim is to give students 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 the school: If you have any questions or concerns about the Prevent Strategy, and what it means to your child, please do not hesitate to contact the school office on 01308……… in the first instance.

**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/445977/3799\_Revised\_Prevent\_Duty\_Guidance\_\_England\_Wales\_V2-

Prevent duty guidance for England and Wales, HM Government https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data /file/445977/3799\_Revised\_Prevent\_Duty\_Guidance\_\_England\_Wales\_V2- Interactive.pdf Frequently asked questions, Prevent for Schools http://www.preventforschools.org/?category\_id=38 What is Prevent? <http://www.ltai.info/what-is-prevent/>

**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 reaction 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.