

The Prevent Agenda: Parents Information Leaflet

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world” (Nelson Mandela)

Useful 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 us.

The following sources may also be useful for further information:

Prevent Duty Guidance :

- www.gov.uk/government/publications/protectingchildren-from-radicalisation-the-prevent-duty Frequently asked questions

Prevent For Schools:

- www.preventforschools.org/?category_id=38 What is Prevent?
- Let's Talk About It www.itai.info/what-is-prevent/ThePreventStrategy

Websites offering further information for parents

- <https://educateagainsthate.com>

Safeguarding

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Alison Jackson. The Designated Safeguarding Team consists of Mrs Alison Carter, Headteacher, Mrs Alison Jackson Deputy Headteacher and Mrs Gill Pillar, Safeguarding Governor

A Parents Guide To Radicalisation And Prevent Strategy

What is Prevent?



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 (at an age appropriate level).

What is extremism and radicalisation?

Prevent defines **extremism** as: “vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

Radicalisation is defined by the UK Government within this context as “the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.”

We live in a wonderfully diverse world, with both differences and similarities to celebrate. Exploring religious and different social beliefs, in a peaceful and non-violent way, is part of growing up and should not be confused with something more sinister. The best way to PREVENT extremism and radicalisation is by open discussion and increased understanding of each other.

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 deaf 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, language ability and maturity of the children involved. Longwill School is a Rights Respecting School and so pupils are taught to value the rights of all children. The UNICEF Rights of the Child' principles are always at the forefront of our thoughts and actions. We teach tolerance and respect and work hard to develop the resilience of all our pupils. In doing this, we can promote the Prevent agenda.

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

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 groups and other causes.

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.

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 (No Platform Policy).



What is the school doing to PREVENT extremism and radicalisation?

- All members of the school staff have received specific training from an accredited Prevent trainer.
- Children are encouraged to explore ideas of community, belonging and tolerance during PSHE lessons.
- SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) education is a very important part of our curriculum.
- Developing globally aware children who think critically is also very important to us. Our Longwill Newsround on the website helps pupils develop their knowledge and understanding of the world.
- Pupil Voice at Longwill is strong! Our School Council includes representatives from every year group in main-school.
- Issues in world news are discussed with the children in an age appropriate and open fashion, allowing children to discuss different points of view and ideas.
- The school is a Rights Respecting School. We are working towards our Gold Award this year because we think this work is so important

What can I do as a parent to help my child?

- You know your child better than anybody else.
- Having open, honest conversations on a regular basis will allow your child to explore new ideas in a safe environment.
- Talk to your child about their online viewing. Social media such as YouTube and Facebook can be used to groom children towards a certain point of view.
- Discuss different points of view concerns topics in the news, modelling that there is always more than one point of view.
- Encourage your child to take an active part in their local community. This could be part of a sports club, social group, volunteering. Getting out, meeting and talking to people around you helps to understand and become part of a community.
- Contact school if you need any further support. We are always keen to work with parents.
- Our BSL classes for parents take place weekly. Having the best possible BSL skills will be important so that you can communicate easily with your child.