



## High Meadow Community School

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### The Prevent Strategy

#### What is the Prevent strategy?

The Prevent duty requires all schools to "have due regard to the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism", under the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015. The duty covers all types of extremism, whether political, religious or ideological.

#### How does the Prevent strategy apply to schools?

We need to protect pupils from the risk of radicalisation, as part of our wider safeguarding duties and duty to promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development in all of pupils.

To do this, we will:

- Promote the fundamental British values in our curriculum
- Make sure our school is a safe space for pupils to discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and extremism
- Ensure we have robust safeguarding procedures to identify children at risk
- Engage with our local authority's (LA's) risk assessment to determine the potential risk of individuals being drawn into terrorism in your local area
- Make sure we have measures in place to protect pupils from harmful online content, including setting up appropriate filtering systems
- Make sure staff receive training to help them identify pupils at risk, challenge extremist ideas, and know how to act if they have a concern.

#### 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 at our School?

Many of the things we already do at High Meadow Community School, help our children become positive, happy members of society. Our curriculum and a variety of school activities also contribute to the Prevent strategy.

At High Meadow Community School we:

- challenge prejudices and any racist comments
- learn about a variety of religions through our RE teaching
- develop a strong, positive self-esteem for all pupils
- promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils,
- promote British values such as democracy through our School Council
- safeguard children through the 'Taking Care' Project.

We will also protect young people 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



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## Frequently Asked Questions

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

Yes; the internet reaches everywhere. Extremism can take many forms, including political or religious extremism. Extreme views are often promoted online and although our E-safety teaching repeatedly shows children the dangers of talking to people whom they do not know in real life, extreme views are often spread gradually through online chat which at first appears harmless and friendly. Such forums can be very attractive to children anywhere whose self-esteem is not high as they can be easily groomed to believe they are talking to similarly aged children who may in fact be adults with a variety of dangerous motives for befriending children. These motives may include sexual predation or the spreading of an extremist viewpoint. We will teach children ways to keep safe online and to protect them from any extremist views they may encounter, now or later in their lives.

### 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
- mutual respect
- tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

### How does this relate to High Meadow Community School?

At High Meadow Community School we are committed to upholding and giving students the opportunity to demonstrate the British values of democracy, individual liberty, the rule of law, mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith. Students are able to explore these through our assemblies, extracurricular opportunities and throughout other aspects of the curriculum.

Through modelling and encouraging pupils to live these values we endeavour to enable pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence. The school is committed to establishing a strong ethos supported by effective relationships throughout the school. All teachers aim to give pupils the opportunity to develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.

### Isn't my child too young to learn about extremism?

The Prevent strategy is not just about discussing extremism, which may not always be appropriate for younger pupils. It is also about teaching children values such as fairness, teamwork and respect. The school will make sure any discussions are suitable for the age and maturity of the pupils involved.

### Want to know more?

Please follow these links

<https://educateagainsthate.com/>

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



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