



Streetsbrook Infant & Early Years Academy

The Prevent Duty



Brief Guide

What is the Prevent Duty?

The overall aim of England's counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST, is to reduce the risk from terrorism to the UK, its citizens and interests overseas, so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence. Prevent remains one of the key pillars of CONTEST, alongside the other three 'P' work strands:

- Prevent: to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism
- Pursue: to stop terrorist attacks
- Protect: to strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack
- Prepare: to mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack

The aim of Prevent is to stop people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. Prevent also extends to supporting the rehabilitation and disengagement of those already involved in terrorism.

The Prevent duty requires specified authorities such as education, health, local authorities, police and criminal justice agencies (prisons and probation) to help prevent the risk of people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. It sits alongside long-established safeguarding duties on professional to protect people from a range of other harms, such as substance abuse, involvement in gangs, and physical and sexual exploitation. The duty helps to ensure that people who are susceptible to radicalisation are supported as they would be under safeguarding processes.

The objectives of Prevent are to:

- Tackle the ideological causes of terrorism
- Intervene early to support people susceptible to radicalisation
- Enable people who have already engaged in terrorism to disengage and rehabilitate

How does the Prevent Duty apply to Streetsbrook?

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 children 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 Duty. 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 children as well as British Values such as democracy
- Providing a safe learning environment for debating issues helping learners to understand how they can influence and participate in decision making

We 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, and by vetting visitors who come into school to work with our children.

Different schools will carry out the Prevent duty in different ways, depending on the age of the children and the needs of the community.

Frequently Asked Questions

How does The Prevent Duty relate to British values?

Schools support learners to have the knowledge and skills and values that will prepare them to be citizens in modern Britain. As part of this, we are required to actively promote the fundamental British values of:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

There are opportunities in the PSHE curriculum to explore relevant topics, such as citizenship and developing positive relationships.

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

The Prevent Duty 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 themselves from any extremist views they may encounter, now or later in their lives.

KEY TERMS

Extremism – vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values such as democracy, the rule of the law and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

Ideology – a set of beliefs

Terrorism – a violent action against people or property, design to create fear and advance political, religious or ideological cause

Radicalisation – the process by which a person comes to support extremism and terrorism

Where to go for more information

Contact Us

If you have any questions or concerns about the Prevent Duty and what it means for your child, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Minter, the school's Headteacher, who is the lead for PREVENT as well as being one of the school's designated Safeguarding Leads.

See our Policies

You will find more details about radicalisation in our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policies, available on our website.

An overview of our PSHE curriculum can be found on the school's website as well as the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development Policy which includes British Values.

External Sources

The following sources may also be useful for further information:

Prevent duty guidance for England and Wales, HM Government

[Prevent duty guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/346272/prevent-duty-guidance-for-england-and-wales.pdf)

What is Prevent? Let's Talk About It

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