



Care, Collaboration, Challenge

## PREVENT STRATEGY

### What is Prevent?

Prevent is part of CONTEST, the Government's strategy to address terrorism. The main aim of Prevent is to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. Prevent focuses on all forms of terrorist threats. E.g. international terrorism, far right extremists (amongst others).

The Government's Prevent strategy can be found at the following address:  
[www.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk)

### Three key themes

The police, Local Authorities, and our partner organisations are working together to help strengthen and empower our communities to reject those who want to cause harm. We work together and focus on three key themes:

- Safeguarding vulnerable individuals through the provision of advice and support and intervention projects.
- Working closely with institutions such as Universities, Schools, Prisons, Health, Charities and faith establishments.
- Challenging terrorist ideology by working closely with other local and national agencies, partners and our communities

### Prevent Team

The Prevent Engagement Team of officers and police staff aim to encourage discussion ensuring that terrorism is prevented from taking root in our communities. They support the wider engagement activities already taking place in schools, places of worship and community groups.

Through this work they aim to strengthen communities in order to challenge the ideologies and messages of hate which lead to terrorism.

## **How you can help?**

It is important that we all work together, so that we can protect our communities. There are many ways you can help:

- You can get in touch with your local neighbourhood or Prevent team for advice and support, if you are worried about someone you know who you believe may be vulnerable to radicalisation
- You can speak to your local officers or Prevent contact about helping run community events to bring people from different communities together
- You can provide facilities that could help us and our partners hold community engagement events.

## **How does the Prevent Strategy apply to schools?**

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.

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 for us at Springfield Primary Academy?**

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
- 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 software and 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.

## **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 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.

Please contact the school, should you have any further questions about the PREVENT Strategy.

## **Summary of guidance for working with people who are vulnerable to the messages of violent extremism**

### **What are terrorism, extremism and radicalisation?**

The current UK definition of terrorism is given in the Terrorism Act 2000. This defines terrorism as an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people; causes serious damage to property; or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat

must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause.

Extremism is the 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. This also includes calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas.

Radicalisation is the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism.

### **What makes a person vulnerable to radicalisation?**

There is no single profile of a person likely to become involved in extremism, and the process of radicalisation is different for every individual. Radicalisers use normal social processes such as loyalty, self-perception, and fear of exclusion to influence their targets; it is not simply people with low intelligence or from deprived backgrounds who are susceptible as it is often tempting to assume.

### **What are the indicators of vulnerability to radicalisation?**

Safeguarding children and young people from radicalisation is no different from safeguarding them from other forms of harm and is something you can do with no additional training, simply trusting your judgement and using your existing professional knowledge.

Indicators for vulnerability to radicalisation are the same as those you are already familiar with: family tensions, sense of isolation, migration and distance from cultural heritage, experience of racism or discrimination, feeling of failure etc. Those in the process of being radicalised may become involved with a new group of friends, search for answers to questions about identity, faith and belonging, possess violent extremist literature or advocate violence actions, change their behaviour and language, seek to recruit others to an extremist ideology. It is vital to note that children and young people experiencing these situations or displaying these behaviours are not necessarily showing signs of being radicalised. There could be many other reasons for the behaviour including those you are already familiar with – alcohol or drug abuse, family breakdown, domestic abuse, bullying etc. or even something more minor.

### **Why is it important to act early?**

When we think of terrorism we tend to think of 9/11, 7/7 and bombs going off. However this is only the result of terrorism, resulting from months or years of recruitment, radicalisation and advance planning. These hidden early aspects of terrorism can and do happen anywhere.

## **What do I do if I suspect a child or young person is becoming radicalised or involved in extremism?**

You should refer your concerns using the Channel referral form, remembering to follow your standard organisational safeguarding policy (such as informing your manager).

Humberside Police will carry out an initial assessment and, if appropriate, set up a multi-agency meeting to agree actions for supporting the individual. If it is deemed that there are no concerns about radicalisation, support will be arranged for the individual through other means such as a Single Assessment, or through social care or another organisation.

Remember that any information you give to the Police at this stage will be investigated in the pre-criminal arena; it does not assume that any criminal activity has taken place and the Police will be looking to support and guide rather than to criminalise and arrest.

### **Where can I find further information?**

Prevent Strategy 2011

Humberside Police – 999 (emergency) / 101 (non-emergency)