



## Prevent Strategy

### Information for Parents and Carers

#### **What is the Prevent strategy?**

Prevent is a government strategy designed to stop people supporting extremist causes. The Prevent strategy covers all types of extremism, including political and religious extremism.

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

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. 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, in the same way we protect them from the other aspects of modern society that may be a danger to our children. Importantly, we can provide a safe place for pupils to discuss these issues so that they better understand how to protect themselves. We will give children the skills to protect them from any extremist views they may encounter, now or later in their lives.

#### **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

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

If you have any questions or concerns about the Prevent strategy and what it means for your child, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

