What is Prevent?

Prevent is a national strategy to support people who are vulnerable to radicalisation. Everyone who works in a school has a duty to-

- Spot and support children who may be at risk of radicalisation*
- Build children’s resilience to radicalisation

What do staff have to do? Spotting at Risk Children

All staff are expected to assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorist groups including children who show support for ideas that are part of extremist ideologies.**

Some of the risks posed to children vary depending on their context and there is a growing risk to children being radicalised through social media. There will be training in spring term to help us understand the risks posed to children in our area in more detail. For now, as part of ongoing safeguarding be alert to-

- Changes in children’s behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection

If you are concerned about a child being in danger of radicalisation, please enter your concerns in the welfare diaries as part of the normal safeguarding procedure.

Although we have to take action when we are concerned, we do not need to intrude on a child’s family life. If you are worried about a child, just report it at this stage instead of investigating further. **No child should be victimised or interrogated.**

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Mrs S. Blagden (in her absence Me L. Rowan), the Deputy DSL is C. Philburn and the designated governor Mrs S. Mallinder will use the information collected in the welfare diaries to identify children who may be potentially vulnerable to radicalisation and refer them to Channel if needed. Channel is a programme which aims to support children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation at an early stage. Participation with the programme is entirely voluntary at every stage.

What do staff have to do? Building Children’s Resilience to Radicalisation

All staff are responsible for ensuring we support children to be resilient to radicalisation. To protect children against radicalisation in this school everyone should-

- Contribute to teaching children PSHE, RE and P4C. Use these opportunities to promote discussions around children’s rights, the law, democracy, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.
- Meet the school charter
- Plan projects which enable children to make a positive difference in the real world.

Further Training

Over spring term there will be further training to help everyone understand specific threats which our children may face and to help us spot signs of radicalisation.

It is important to remember that ‘radicalisation’ and ‘extremism’ do not only apply to one religious or political stand-point and can, in fact, apply to all political and religious stand-points that oppose fundamental British values. We all have a duty to avoid stereotyping children to ensure that we maintain our rights respecting school ethos by respecting each other, the children and the families we serve.

*“Radicalisation” refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism. During that process it is possible to intervene to prevent vulnerable people being drawn into terrorist-related activity.

**“Extremism” is 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. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas.