

Key Terms

Extremism: vocal or active opposition of fundamental British values such as democracy, the rule of law and the 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



Our school mission is underpinned by the Virtues of the Catholic Church. The virtue of Justice guides our actions and the prayer of St Francis, guides our hearts.

*Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace;
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.
O Divine Master,
grant that I may not so much seek to
be consoled as to console;
to be understood, as to understand;
to be loved, as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are
pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to
eternal life.
Amen.*



St Thomas of Canterbury
Catholic Primary School



PREVENT

This information is for parents and families to understand the government initiative of prevent. The focus of prevent is to identify and help stop radicalization in what manifestation it occurs.

The PREVENT lead is Miss Kate Bakewell. The deputy prevent leads are Mr. Peter Booth and Ms. Jacqui Barnden. Please refer any concerns to them.

What is the PREVENT strategy?

PREVENT is a government strategy designed to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorist/extremist causes.



How does the PREVENT strategy apply to schools?

From July 2015 all schools (as well as other organisations) had a duty to safeguard children from radicalisation and extremism.

This means that we have a responsibility to protect children from extremist and violent views in the same way that 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 in practice?

Many of the things that we already do in school to help the 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 positive self-identity
- 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 filters on the internet to make sure that they can't access extremist and terrorist material or by vetting visitors that come in to school to work with pupils.

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 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 that any discussions will be 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 to our area than others.

We will give the children the skills to protect themselves from any extremist views they may encounter, now or later in their lives.