

## A Parent or Carer's Guide to The Prevent Duty in Schools

- Please note: The term 'schools' is used throughout the guidance, to include, all Ofsted inspected educational provision (This includes Early Years and Childminders).

### What is the Prevent Duty?

- The Prevent Duty is a law that has been designed to safeguard 'vulnerable' individuals from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorist or extremist causes.
- The Prevent Duty incorporates all types of terrorism and extremism, including the extreme right wing, religious extremism and other causes.

### Key Terminology:

Vulnerable	Exposed to the possibility of physical or emotional harm.
Safeguard	To protect.
Terrorism	Unlawful use of violence and intimidation, especially against civilians, in order to achieve specific political or religious objectives.
Extremism	Vocal or active opposition of British Values, and support of using violence and intimidation in order to achieve specific political or religious objectives.
Radicalisation	The process where an individual or group disobey the law and accept increasingly extremist ideas.

### How does the Prevent Duty apply to schools?

- Under the key requirements of the Prevent Duty and the Ofsted Framework, all schools have a duty to safeguard young people from radicalisation, extremism and terrorism.
- This means that schools have a responsibility to protect young people from extremist and violent views in the same way that they protect them from CSE, drugs or gang violence.
- Importantly, schools can provide a safe place for young people to discuss these issues so they can better understand how to keep themselves safe.

### Schools do this by:

- Using special filters on the internet to make sure that staff and the children can't access extremist or terrorist material online.
- Vetting visitors who come into school to work with pupils.
- Ensuring all safeguarding policies and processes are up to date – with clear reference to the requirements of the Duty.
- Implementing British Values in teaching and learning.

## What are British Values and how are they linked to the Prevent Duty?

As part of the Prevent Duty, Schools are required to actively promote each of the key components of the definition 'British Values' as part of their response to challenging all extremist narratives. British Values include:

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

## What does this mean in practice?

Many of the things that schools already do as a part of SMSC/PSE to help young people become kind, well rounded members of society also contribute to the 'British Values' element of the Prevent Duty. These include:

- Exploring other cultures and religions
- Listening to each other and showing mutual respect even if we disagree
- Respecting rules
- Promoting diversity
- Challenging prejudices and racist comments
- Developing critical thinking skills
- Developing a strong, positive self-identity
- Promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

During inspections, Ofsted would like to see evidence of all these components of the definition, but they do not necessarily have to be called British Values. For example, an Ofsted inspector may ask a school to demonstrate how they promote British Values, so they should be aware of what they are, but are completely within their right to say, *'In our school, we call them XXXX Values, and we include all of the British Values components in addition to X and Y'*.

In Bradford, we actively promote **UNITED values**. Our UNITED Values incorporate British Values as well as the key principles of the Equality Act 2010 and Critical Thinking. Our UNITED Values challenge **all negative behaviours** including extremism and terrorism.

<b>U</b>	Understanding and respect of law.	Critical Thinking
<b>N</b>	Nurturing mutual respect.	
<b>I</b>	Individual liberty.	
<b>T</b>	Tolerance of other faiths and beliefs.	
<b>E</b>	Equality and Diversity.	
<b>D</b>	Democracy	

## Aren't some young people 'too young' to learn about extremism and terrorism?

The Prevent Duty is not just about discussing extremism and terrorism, which may not be appropriate for some primary school age children. It is also about teaching young people values such as tolerance

and mutual respect. Each school will make sure any discussions taking place are suitable for the age and maturity of the young people involved. Different schools will carry out the Prevent Duty in different ways, depending on the age of the young people and the needs of the community.

### **Is extremism really a risk in Bradford?**

There are many forms of extremism, including far right extremism, far left extremism, politico-religious extremism, misogynistic extremism, single-issue extremism and many more. Some of these may be a bigger threat in our area than others. Under the Prevent Duty, schools will give young people the skills to protect them from any extremist narratives they may come across now or in the future.

### **What is Channel?**

Channel is an important part of the Prevent Duty. Channel panels are multi-agency partnership support networks, designed to offer early intervention for young people and adults that are considered vulnerable to radicalisation. Channel is not about criminalising young people or adults but rather, it offers a support mechanism to divert the vulnerable individual from going down a path that could potentially lead to criminal activity.

Channel panels are made up of local partners from the Council, Education, Health, Social Services, Children's and Youth services, Probation, and the Police. Channel panels use existing partnerships between the specified authorities and the local community to:

- Identify individuals and families at risk of being drawn into terrorism and review the nature and extent of that risk.
- Develop a tailor-made support plan for those considered vulnerable. Support plans may include activities such as mentoring, parenting support, and ideological or theological interventions to deliver a counter-narrative.

The success of the Channel programme depends on the organised support of partners and the corporation of the individuals and families to fully engage with the programme.

### **Further information:**

If you have any questions or concerns about the Prevent Duty, and how it is implemented at your child's school, then please contact the school.