

# St Bede C of E Primary Academy



## Prevent Policy

### What is Prevent?

Prevent is part of the Government's counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST. Its aim is to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. Prevent is an early intervention tool most commonly in the form of education, dialogue and mentoring, aiming to reduce the likelihood of terrorist or other violent actions in the future.

In an educational context Prevent is a safeguarding issue for schools aimed at supporting and protecting children and young people who are vulnerable and at risk of being radicalised. Prevent is about ensuring that they are diverted away before any crime is committed and described as a long-term solution to the current threat of extremism.

### The importance of the Prevent Strategy for Education and Schools

The Extremism taskforce report called 'Tackling Extremism in the UK' was produced in response to the 2013 attack on Fusilier Lee Rigby in Woolwich and to a lesser extent the far right attacks by Ukrainian student Pavlo Lapshyn in the West Midlands.

The report has recommended extended responsibilities in schools, for example: "All schools in England, whether in the state or independent sectors, including those with a faith ethos, must expect that they will be inspected and assessed on their measures to protect their pupils from extremist material".

### School responsibilities

#### *Vulnerability to radicalisation or extreme view points*

St. Bede C.E. Primary Academy recognises its duty to protect our children from indoctrination into any form of extreme ideology which may lead to the harm of self or others. This is particularly important because of the open access to electronic information through the internet. The school aims to safeguard children through educating them on the appropriate use of social media and the dangers of downloading and sharing inappropriate material which is illegal under the Counter-Terrorism Act.

The school vets all visitors carefully and will take firm action if any individual or group is perceived to be attempting to influence members of our school community, either physically or electronically.

Our definition of radical or extreme ideology is 'a set of ideas which could justify vilification or violence against individuals, groups or self.' Staff are trained to be vigilant for spotting signs of extremist view and behaviours and to always report anything which may suggest a child or parent is expressing opinions which may cause concern. Our core mission of diversity permeates all we do. We place a strong emphasis on the common values that all communities share such as self-respect, tolerance and the sanctity of life. We work hard to broaden our students' experience, to

prepare them for life and work in contemporary Britain. We teach them to respect and value the diversity around them as well as understanding how to make safe, well-considered decisions.

St. Bede C.E. Primary Academy will support our children and staff in the implementation of the Prevent agenda by:

- Delivery of whole school staff training;
- Online safety policy and training;
- embedding the Prevent agenda through the curriculum in PHSE;
- referring any child/children at risk of being radicalised or extremism through the Local Authority Referral and Intervention processes;
- ensuring staff and Governors are aware of how to identify and respond to risks to children from extreme or radical views.