

What will happen if I talk to you about my concerns?

We know that talking to us about your concerns about your child or another child may be difficult for a parent or carer to do.

Unless you agree for your information to be shared your information will be kept confidential. If there are serious concerns around a child being harmed or harming others, information will be shared with Cumbria Counter-Terrorist Policing (Prevent) and Cumbria's Local Safeguarding Children Board.

If this happens we will be working with you to keep your child safe and you will be informed throughout the process.

Where concerns are still developing, you and your child may be supported by Cumbria Counter-Terrorist Policing (Prevent) and children's services.

Please be reassured that even if your child is assessed as not being at risk of radicalisation, we will still aim to offer you and your family support with any of the concerns you have raised.

Further Information

Contact the school

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.

External Sources

NSPCC

www.nspcc.org.uk

The NSPCC is the UK's leading children's charity, preventing abuse and helping those affected to recover.

Families Against Stress and Trauma (FAST)

www.familiesmatteruk.org

This site provides information for parents on spotting the signs of radicalisation.

Educate against Hate

www.educateagainsthate.com

This website gives parents practical advice on protecting children from extremism and radicalisation.

The Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP).

www.ThinkUKnow.co.uk

This organisation works to protect children online by providing children and parents resources.



PREVENT

Keeping Children Safe from Radicalisation

Information for parents and carers

What is Prevent?

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

The Prevent strategy covers all types of terrorism and extremism, including the extreme right wing, violent groups and other causes.

How does the Prevent Strategy apply to schools?

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 the same way 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 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.

We will also protect children from the risk of radicalisation, for example by using filters on the internet to make sure that they cannot access extremist and terrorist material, or by vetting visitors who come into school to work with the 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?

All schools are required to promote British Values, and this will continue to be part of our response to the Prevent strategy.

British values include:

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

(For more information visit our British Values page in the About Us section of our website)

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 any discussions are suitable for the age and maturity of the children involved.

Is extremism really a risk in our area?

Extremism can take any forms, including political, religious or misogynistic extremism. Some of these may be a bigger threat in some areas than others.

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