



# The Prevent Strategy – information for parents

Updated Spring 2024

**Aylesbury High School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the safety and well-being of all its students and staff. As a school we recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation is no different from safeguarding against any other vulnerability and we therefore encourage that this document is read with reference to our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.**

## **What is the Prevent Strategy?**

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 Islamist groups and other causes.

## **How does the Prevent Strategy apply to schools?**

From July 2015 all schools have a duty to safeguard children and young people from radicalisation and extremism. This means we have a responsibility to protect our students from extremist and violent views. Importantly, we aim to provide a safe place for students 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 students 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 students, as well as British values such as democracy

We will also aim to protect students from the risk of radicalisation, for example by using filters on the internet to make sure they can't access extremist and terrorist material, or by vetting visitors who come into school to work with students. Different schools will carry out the Prevent duty in different ways, depending on the age of the student and the needs of the community.

## **The Role of the Curriculum**

All schools are required to teach a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes the spiritual, moral and cultural development (SMSC) of students and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.

The school challenges all prejudices recognising students who are at risk of isolation. The emphasis on pastoral care through the tutor system, rewards and sanctions, assemblies, Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and enrichment and community opportunities



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ensure that the school is a safe place to learn and that anti-bullying strategies minimise hate and prejudice based bullying. Our Inclusion and Diversity group seeks to promote equality and positive relationships and understanding within our community.

Our curriculum promotes respect, tolerance, diversity and British Values. All students are encouraged to share their views and recognise that they are entitled to have their own different beliefs which should not be used to influence others. Our PSHE, Citizenship and SMSC provision is embedded across the curriculum and underpins the ethos of the school. We strive to equip our students with confidence, self-belief, respect and tolerance, as well as setting high standards and expectations for themselves. Students are regularly taught how to stay safe in a variety of situations that they may face and what to do if they are concerned.

In addition to these core values being embedded into our curriculum, we use an interactive computer programme with students in Key Stage 4 which has been specifically developed by the University of Kent and Kent Police to educate students about radicalisation.

### **Staff Training**

The latest whole staff Prevent training session was held in January 2024. New staff or volunteers since this time receive training as part of their annual safeguarding and/or new to school induction. The training aims to ensure that staff are fully aware of the threats, risks and vulnerabilities that are linked to radicalisation, the process of radicalisation and how this might be identified early on.

### **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 daughter 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 young people values such as tolerance and mutual respect. The school will make sure any discussions are suitable for the age and maturity of the students involved.

#### **Is extremism really a risk in our area?**



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Extremism can take many forms, including political, religious and misogynistic extremism. Some of these may be a bigger threat in our area than others. Our aim is to give students the skills to protect them from any extremist views they may encounter, now or later in their lives.

## Where to go for more information

### Contact the school

If you have any questions or concerns about the Prevent strategy and what it means for your daughter, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

### See our policies

You will find more details about radicalisation in our safeguarding policy, available on our website.

### External sources

The following sources may also be useful for further information:

Prevent duty [guidance](#): for England and Wales, HM Government

Information on Prevent from the [NSPCC](#)

What is Prevent? Let's Talk About It  
<http://www.ltai.info/what-is-prevent/>

## Key Terms

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