



## **Prevent Strategy Information for Parents**

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

The Prevent Strategy is a government strategy designed to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. It responds to the ideological challenge we face from terrorism and aspects of extremism, and the threat we face from those who promote these views.

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

Schools have a duty to safeguard children from radicalisation and extremism. We have a responsibility to protect children from extremist and violent views. Extremism can take many forms, including political, religious and misogynistic extremism.

From 1 July 2015 all schools have a duty, under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, to have 'due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism'. This duty is known as the *Prevent Duty for Schools*.

The Prevent duty applies to all schools, whether state-funded or independent, as well as early years providers and children's homes.

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

The four key duties for schools are:

- To identify local risks
- To identify pupils at risk
- To work in partnership with other agencies, families and communities, to help support pupils who may be vulnerable, as part of their safeguarding responsibilities
- To keep children safe online, where much of the radicalisation takes place.

Education is a powerful tool, equipping young people with the knowledge, skills and reflex to think for themselves as well as to challenge and debate. It gives young people the opportunity to learn about different cultures and faiths and gain an understanding of the values we share. Exploring ideas, developing a sense of identity and forming views are a normal part of growing up.

Schools can provide a safe place for children to understand how to protect themselves, express their views but also to appreciate the impact their views can have on others. We can support children to take responsibility for their actions and to understand that the use of violence to further any cause is criminal.

### **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.

At Holtsmere End Junior School we are dedicated to promoting values which ensure our pupils develop a strong sense of social and moral responsibility which will prepare them for life in modern Britain.

These include:

- o Exploring other cultures and religions promoting diversity
- o Challenging prejudices and racist comments
- o Developing critical thinking skills and a strong, positive self-identity
- o Promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils, as well as British Values

### **British Values**

- o Democracy
- o The Rule of Law
- o Individual Liberty and Mutual Respect
- o Tolerance of different Faiths and Beliefs

### **Democracy**

Our school values pupil voice and we ask the pupils about their learning, their concerns and for their ideas about how we can make things better for them. We do this by using pupil questionnaires and through our School Council.

### **The Rule of Law**

The school has a positive 'Good to be Green' Behaviour Policy. The children understand the school rules and what happens if these rules are broken. At the start of each year classes discuss class expectations and how these relate to our school rules. During PSHE lessons and assemblies children learn about the importance of having rules and how these relate to laws. PSHE promotes moral, spiritual, social and cultural awareness among our pupils. Our children have a well-developed sense of justice. They understand and are able to discuss why there need to be consequences for those who break the rules or laws. By being immersed in the ethos of our school, children learn about their responsibility to be law abiding citizens.

### **Individual Liberty**

Alongside rules and laws, we promote freedom of choice and the right to respectfully express views and beliefs. Through the provision of a safe, supportive environment and empowering education, we provide boundaries for our children to make choices safely; for example:

- o Choices about what learning challenge or activity to do
- o Choices around the participation in extra-curricular activities
- o Choices about lunchtime options

It is a primary aim of our school that every member of the school community feels valued and respected, and that each person is treated fairly and well. We are a caring community, whose values are built on mutual trust and respect for all. The school Behaviour Policy is therefore designed to support the way in which all members of the school can live and work together in a supportive way. It aims to promote an environment where everyone feels happy, safe and secure.

This policy supports the school community in aiming to allow everyone to work together in an effective and considerate way.

During PSHE, E-Safety lessons and Assemblies pupils are taught how to keep themselves safe whilst they exercise their rights and personal freedoms. Safeguarding is embedded in every aspect of life at our school.

### **Mutual Respect and Tolerance**

Our ethos at Holtsmere End Junior School is based on mutual respect and good manners. Adults actively model respect with one another, and with the children, in how we speak and treat one another. Through our Curriculum and RE, we promote an awareness of different faiths and provide opportunities for children to find out and understand cultures and faiths that are different from their own.

All staff model a tolerant and accepting attitude. We use assemblies, as well as 'Antibullying' weeks, to challenge prejudice and celebrate diversity.

At Holtsmere End Junior School, we will actively challenge pupils, parents, staff or governors who express opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including extremist views.

### **British Values through the Curriculum**

Within our curriculum we plan opportunities to teach the values of our society. Some examples are:

- o **PSHE:** The Rule of Law and the importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country is reinforced at Holtsmere End Junior School. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our e-safety and PSHE lessons
- o **Geography:** We ensure that children have a better understanding of what Britain is, learning more about its capital cities and counties, its rivers and mountains, where Britain is in relation to the rest of Europe and other countries in the world.
- o **History:** Britain and its influence in modern times
- o **Religious, Moral & Spiritual Education:** Key religions represented in the UK are covered to gain greater understanding of religious diversity and practices. We celebrate the different Faiths, Culture and Customs of the pupils at our school. We have a relationship with a school in Uganda so that children have the opportunity to understand the experiences of other children.
- o **Physical Education:** Promotion of the concept of "fair play", following and developing rules, inclusion, celebrating and rewarding success, being magnanimous in defeat and participation in activities that promote kinship and affiliation with others

o **Computing:** Children are also taught about safety in the online world through regular e-safety lessons

• **Educational visits:** Our broad range of educational visits and experiences outside of the classroom equip our children with the skills to make a positive contribution to their community as equal citizens, as well as being able to look at British heritage in more depth. Visitors into school enrich children's experiences.

• **Community:** We encourage our children to interact with children and adults from other schools through organised activities such as sports events, activities with the local Secondary School and transition activities. We take part in events to support charities. We have links with local churches whose Ministers/Methodist Schools Worker visit school to take assemblies. Our local PCSO regularly visits school.