



Watling
PRIMARY SCHOOL

A Denbigh Alliance School

Prevent Statement

What is the Prevent strategy?

Prevent is a Government strategy designed to stop people being drawn into acts or terrorism or supporting terrorist or extremist causes.

How does the Prevent strategy apply to schools?

From July 2015 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 in exactly the same way we protect them from any other harm.

Building resilience in our young people and the promotion of fundamental British values is at the heart of preventing radicalisation. We want to instil in our children the knowledge and confidence to recognise and challenge extremist beliefs and ideologies.

At Watling Primary School, we do this by providing a safe place in which children can discuss issues at an age-appropriate level.

What does this mean in practice at Watling Primary School?

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:

- focusing on the core values of The Watling Way
- exploring other cultures and religions and promoting diversity
- challenging prejudices and racist comments
- developing a strong understanding of what is right and wrong and the moral confidence to stand up for this
- developing critical thinking skills and an emphasis on positive self-identity
- promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils
- promotion of British values e.g. democracy and the rule of law

We will also directly protect children from the risk of radicalisation in more specific ways, such as:

- using filters on the internet to make sure they can't access extremist and terrorist materials
- following thorough systems for vetting of visitors who come into school to work with pupils

Isn't my child too young to learn about extremism?

We are mindful of the fact that some of the issues around extremism are not appropriate for children of a young age to be exposed to. However, the Prevent strategy is not just about discussing extremism itself but is more about teaching children important core 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.

What will we do if we have a concern?

If we have a concern about a particular pupil, we will follow the school's normal safeguarding procedures. This might include discussing the situation with the Designated Safeguarding Lead, and where deemed necessary, with Children's Social Care.

We may also contact the local police force or dial 101 (the non-emergency number). They can talk to us in confidence about concerns and help us gain access to support and advice.

The Department for Education has dedicated a telephone helpline (020 7340 7264) to enable staff and governors to raise concerns relating to extremism directly.

Concerns can also be raised by email to counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk.

Please note that the helpline is not intended for use in emergency situations, such as a child being at immediate risk of harm or a security incident. In such emergency situations where there is an immediate risk, we will refer to the Channel Programme, which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism.