

# Lancaster Lane Primary School



## PREVENT STATEMENT

April 2021

On 1 July 2015 the Prevent Duty (section 26) of The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 came into force. The Prevent strategy aims to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. While it remains rare for children and young people to become involved in terrorist activity, young people from an early age can be exposed to terrorist and extremist influences or prejudiced views. As with other forms of safeguarding strategies, early intervention is always preferable. Schools, working with other local partners, families and communities, play a key role in ensuring young people and their communities are safe from the threat of terrorism.

### **Safeguarding**

Prevent is seen as part of the existing school safeguarding framework; a local approach to ensuring the safety and well-being of all children and young people from birth to age 19.

The Prevent strategy identifies that young people are more likely to be vulnerable to violent extremist or terrorist narratives. Schools and colleges have a duty of care to their

pupils and staff which includes safeguarding them from the risk of being drawn into terrorism. Being drawn into terrorism includes not just violent extremism but also non-violent extremism, which can create an atmosphere conducive to terrorism and can popularise views which terrorists exploit.

Lancaster Lane Primary School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. As a school we recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation is as important as safeguarding against any other vulnerability.

As part of our commitment to safeguarding and child protection we fully support the Government's Prevent Strategy.

## **Extremism**

The Government's Prevent Strategy defines extremism as: "Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces".

Schools should be safe spaces in which children and young people can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and the extremist ideas that are part of the terrorist ideology and learn how to challenge these ideas. The 2014 Government extremism task force identified risks around radicalisation within educational institutions and it is important that Prevent is actively supporting these institutions to protect children from harm and ensure that they are taught in a way that is consistent with the law and British values.

## **British values**

All maintained schools must meet the requirements set out in section 78 of the Education Act 2002 and promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of their pupils. Through ensuring pupils' SMSC development, schools can also demonstrate they are actively promoting fundamental British values. Actively promoting the values means challenging opinions or behaviours in school that are contrary to fundamental British values. Attempts to promote systems that undermine fundamental British values would be completely at odds with schools' duty to provide SMSC. The Teachers' Standards expect teachers to uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school. This includes not undermining fundamental British values.

All staff at Lancaster Lane Primary School are expected to uphold and promote the fundamental principles of British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. We believe that children should be given the opportunity to explore diversity and understand Britain as a multi-cultural society; everyone should be treated with respect whatever their race, gender, sexuality, religious belief, special need, or disability.

## **Ofsted**

When assessing the effectiveness of schools, Ofsted inspectors already consider a school's approach to keeping pupils safe from the risk of radicalisation and extremism, and review the institute's procedures when it is suspected that pupils are being drawn into extremism or terrorist-related activity.

Prevent can work within both violent and non-violent extremism arenas and can include topics such as hate crime, racism, bullying, online safety and extreme political views.

### **The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015**

The Act places a Prevent duty on specified authorities to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism".

Lancaster Lane Primary School is subject to the Prevent Duty and is expected to demonstrate activity in the following areas:

- Assessing the risk of children being drawn into terrorism
- Demonstrate that we are protecting children and young people from being drawn into terrorism by having robust safeguarding policies.
- Ensure that our safeguarding arrangements take into account the policies and procedures of the Local Safeguarding Children Board.
- Ensuring that staff have training that gives them the knowledge and confidence to identify children at risk of being drawn into terrorism, and to challenge extremist ideas which can be used to legitimise terrorism
- Ensure that children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in school.

### **Indicators**

The early identification of safeguarding risks and subsequent intervention activity to protect and divert people away from the risks of radicalisation is a key element of the Prevent strategy. Following an assessment of Prevent activity within a school or college key indicators may be identified which will require further intervention activity within the location. Indicators may include things such as racist graffiti or comments being made on school premises, extremist content being shared on social media, terrorist or extremist propaganda being shared with students or vulnerable students being influenced by others with extreme views.

### **Supportive Interventions**

Prevent Interventions may take many forms. Police activity can be utilised when delivering intervention activity but more often it is partner agency activity that can be the most effective form of intervention. Individuals who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into any form of extremism that could lead to terrorist related activity may be referred into Prevent for appropriate support.

### **Channel**

Channel is a key element of the Prevent strategy. It is a multi-agency approach to protect people at risk from radicalisation. Channel uses existing collaboration between local authorities, statutory partners (such as the education and health sectors, social services, children's and youth services and offender management services), the police and the local community to:

- Identify individuals at risk of being drawn into terrorism
- Assess the nature and extent of that risk
- Develop the most appropriate support plan for the individuals concerned.

Channel is about safeguarding children and adults from being drawn into committing terrorist-related activity. It is about early intervention to protect and divert people away from the risk they face before illegality occurs. Channel is one tactical option employed by Prevent and has recently been placed on a statutory footing. To understand more about the Channel Programme further information can be found here:

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/channel-guidance](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/channel-guidance)

Channel vulnerability assessment - Publications - GOV.UK

Staff and Governors at Manor Road Primary School have completed training that covers Prevent.

## **Reporting Concerns**

Should concerns require support from other agencies there are a number of ways that issues relating to terrorism and extremism can be reported. These include the following:

- Department for Education Due Diligence & Counter Extremism Group: 020 7340 7264
- Anti-Terrorist Hotline: 0800 789 321
- Crime stoppers: 0800 555 111
- Relevant Police force: 101
- [www.gov.uk/report-suspicious-activity-to-mi5](http://www.gov.uk/report-suspicious-activity-to-mi5)
- [www.gov.uk/report-terrorism](http://www.gov.uk/report-terrorism)

## **Social media**

Social media is an increasingly influential part of life particularly for young people. It has been identified as an important tool in the sharing of extreme material and extremist groups are actively using social media to inform, share propaganda, radicalise and recruit for their cause. Social media safeguarding is an important element of protecting young people from extremist narratives and Prevent can play an active part in this process.

**To report any online terrorist related material visit:**

[www.gov.uk/report-terrorism](http://www.gov.uk/report-terrorism)

**Find out more**

The following resources are available to find out more about the Prevent Strategy or Prevent Duty:

[www.gov.uk/government/policies/protecting-the-uk-against-terrorism/supporting-pages/prevent](http://www.gov.uk/government/policies/protecting-the-uk-against-terrorism/supporting-pages/prevent)

[www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/97976/prevent-strategy-review.pdf](http://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/97976/prevent-strategy-review.pdf)

Prevent duty guidance - Publications - GOV.UK