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Thursday, 19th November, 2015

Our Prevent duty arrangements

Dear Parent

I am writing to inform you of the new policies and procedures we have put in place in order to comply with new government requirements.

In June 2015, the Department for Education (DfE) published new guidance on 'The Prevent duty' which prescribes new legal responsibilities on all schools in the UK. The Prevent duty is part of our wider safeguarding duties to protect children from harm. In particular, the Prevent duty requires our school to assess the risk of our pupils being drawn into radicalisation and extremism, and it requires our school staff to be able to identify and respond to children who are vulnerable to radicalisation.

The DfE's guidance defines radicalisation as "the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism". It 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".

It is important to remember that these definitions do not only apply to one religious or political stand-point and can, in fact, apply to all political and religious stand-points that are imposed upon others, or oppose the fundamental British values, to extreme or fanatical levels. However, while this will not affect how we educate our pupils on controversial, religious and political matters, we are reviewing the items below to ensure the safety of our pupils and comply with the government requirements.

Measure	Explanation
Update esafety Policy	We will tailor our IT Policy to include filters restricting pupils from accessing extremist material on the internet.

Measure	Explanation
Updated Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy to include A prevent Duty Policy	A Prevent Duty Policy has been added to our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy. It requires our safeguarding lead to undertake Prevent awareness training, and in turn hold formal training sessions with all members of staff to teach them the 'risk indicators' and how to make a judgement.

If you have any concerns, would like to discuss the new requirements and procedures, or would like to see a copy of any of the policies mentioned above, please contact Mrs Graham-Kevan.

Kind regards,

Mrs Graham-Kevan
Head teacher