

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to you as Headteachers of Crewkerne and Ilminster Schools Partnership to share some important advice and support around the **Prevent Duty**, which all schools in the United Kingdom are required to follow as part of our safeguarding responsibilities.

The Prevent Duty forms part of the Government's wider **Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015**. It requires schools and other organisations working with young people to have due regard to preventing individuals from being drawn into terrorism or extremism. At our schools, this duty sits alongside our existing safeguarding procedures that are designed to protect the wellbeing and safety of all pupils.

In practice, this means that we:

- Promote values such as respect, tolerance, and understanding of different beliefs and cultures.
- Encourage pupils to think critically and discuss issues in a safe and supportive environment.
- Provide staff with training to recognise signs that a young person may be vulnerable to radicalisation.
- Follow clear safeguarding procedures if we have concerns about a pupil's welfare.

It is important to emphasise that the Prevent Duty is **about safeguarding and protecting young people**, not about restricting discussion. We want pupils to feel confident asking questions, exploring ideas, and developing the skills to recognise and challenge harmful or extremist views.

If our schools ever have concerns that a pupil may be vulnerable to being influenced by extremist ideologies, we would follow our normal safeguarding procedures and work with appropriate agencies to ensure the pupil receives the right support.

We recognise that parents and carers play a vital role in supporting children's wellbeing and development. If you would like to learn more about the Prevent Duty we have attached a document produced for parents and carers.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

The Headteachers of Crewkerne and Ilminster Schools Partnership