



## The Prevent Duty

October 2015

The staff at Queenborough School & Nursery are vigilant at safeguarding the children in their care. We keep up to date with new safeguarding legislation by Kent Children's Safeguarding Board and by the Local Authority. Staff are required to complete an online Safeguarding and Child Protection Course, which covers any new legislation, on an annual basis. Any new legislation that comes into force is disseminated to the staff by any of Queenborough School & nursery's Designated Safeguarding Staff.

The Department for Education has published advice for Schools on the Prevent Duty, which came in to force on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015. The Prevent duty requires a wide range of bodies, including Schools and early years and later years childcare providers, to have due regard to the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism in the exercise of their functions.

Queenborough School and Nursery are already responsible for keeping children safe including from the risk of extremism and radicalisation, and for promoting the welfare of children in their care. The Prevent duty will reinforce these existing duties.

The Statutory Guidance makes it clear the need for schools to ensure that children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in Schools. Internet safety is integral to Queenborough School & Nursery's ICT curriculum and is also embedded in Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE). As with other online risks of harm, schools need to be aware of the risks posed by the online activity of extremist and terrorist groups.

PSHE taught at Queenborough School & Nursery is an effective way of providing pupils with time to explore sensitive or controversial issues and equipping them with the knowledge and skills to manage and understand difficult situations. It also builds children's resilience to radicalisation by providing a safe environment for debating controversial issues and promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils and, within this, fundamental British values. (*Department of Education Guidance to Promoting Fundamental British Values can be found as an appendix to this document in the schools policy section*).

Even very young children may be vulnerable to radicalisation by others, whether in the family or outside, and display concerning behaviour. The Prevent duty does not require teachers or childcare providers to carry out unnecessary intrusion into family life but as with any safeguarding risk, they must take action when they observe behaviour of concern.

General safeguarding principals apply to keeping children safe from the risk of radicalisation as set out in the relevant Department for Education's statutory guidance, *Keeping children safe in education*, which can be found as Appendix 1 in Queenborough School & Nursery's Safeguarding Policy.