



PREVENTION OF EXTREMISM & RADICALISATION (PREVENT)

Definitions:

Radicalisation: *process by which people come to support terrorism and extremism and in some cases, go on to participate in terrorist groups.*

Extremism: *vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths.*

(HM Government PREVENT Strategy 2011)

As an Academy, we recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes for young people. Our students see school as a safe place where they can explore controversial issues safely, developing balanced and informed views.

The current threat from terrorism and extremism in the UK is real and severe and can involve the exploitation of vulnerable people, including children and young people.

Awareness of PREVENT and an understanding of the risks it is intended to address, are both vital to help identify young people whose behaviour suggests they are being drawn into terrorism or extremism.

What is PREVENT?

PREVENT is a key part of the Government's strategy to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. Early intervention is at the heart of **PREVENT** in diverting people away from being drawn into terrorist activities. **PREVENT** happens before any criminal activity takes place. It is about recognising, supporting and protecting people who might be susceptible to radicalisation in whatever form that may take e.g. developing and pursuing political and religious beliefs that may harm and endanger others.

Warning Signs and Risk Factors.....

There is no such thing as a 'typical extremist' and those involved in extremism come from a range of backgrounds and sections of society. Research shows that the following indicators may help to identify factors that suggest a young person or their family may be vulnerable or involved with extremism:

- Accessing extremist websites, especially those with a social networking element
- Possessing extremist literature
- Peer, social, family or faith group rejection
- Verbal or written support of terrorist attacks or extremism views
- International events in areas of conflict and civil unrest having a personal impact on a young person resulting in a noticeable change in behaviour
- Extended periods of travel to international locations known to be associated with extremism
- Evidence of fraudulent identity/use of documents to support this
- Experience of disadvantage, discrimination or social exclusion
- History of criminal activity
- First-hand experience of racial or religious hate crime
- Pending a decision on their immigration/national status
- Being in contact with extremist recruiters

Help and advice is available

If you need help, advice, or more information about **PREVENT** please contact Deputy Headteacher - Pastoral Lead, Mr S Gibson Tel: 01289 305083.

If you have immediate concerns you can contact Northumbria Police directly, please follow the link for the up to date contacts.
<http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=10822>

In the case of an immediate threat, always dial 999.