

Extremism, Radicalisation & British Values

Information For Parents ...

The United Kingdom is a great place to live, to work and to enjoy family and community life. For centuries we have welcomed immigrants from all over the world and they have contributed enormously to our continued growth and development as a nation. The key to this success has been the importance of our British Values which underpin all our laws, our attitudes and the way we live harmoniously.

These 'British' values are defined as being :

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty and
- mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

As a school, we help pupils to instil these values through :

- our curriculum and teaching
- through how we operate our school
- our attitudes and actions
- what we do and how we do it
- everything that we offer

We know that you will want to support our school to ensure that these essential values are embedded in all our children and their families.

Overleaf you will find some advice you may find helpful in protecting your child from harmful influences.



Being Online ...

Most children who are influenced by extreme or radical teaching are engaged through the internet and social media. Far from being 'behind the times', organisations like ISIS have extremely good strategies for using Twitter, Tumblr, Instagram and many other platforms. In many cases, these conversations start in public forums and then go onto use private messaging services. In some cases, young people have created two identities online (a) one for family and friends and (b) one for their 'new self'. The names used in their new 'identity' often suggest a change in ideology or activity.

You can help to stop this by :

- being friends with your children and following them on social media
- being aware of who your children are connecting to online
- watching what they are posting on their time-lines / walls
- relying on your instinct to identify comments or views that are 'out of character' for them
- checking your child's internet history regularly
- turning on parental controls or other safety features available to limit the kind of things they view online



Behaviour to Watch ...

Some factors can indicate that a young person / child may be vulnerable to radicalisation include :

- a view that their religion or culture is under threat and treated unfairly
- a tendency to look for conspiracy theories and distrust of the media
- the need for identity and belonging
- the need for more excitement and adventure
- easily susceptible to influence by others

Other changes may include ...

- being more argumentative
- being quick to condemn others who don't agree with them
- use the terms 'them and us' when referring to religion and culture
- changes in their use of language, including the use of derogatory terms
- expressing radical or extremist views
- lost interest in activities they used to enjoy
- spending increasing amounts of time online and being secretive
- changed their lifestyle, dress or personal appearance
- expressed sympathy with extremist groups
- expressed sympathy with other young British people that have joined groups



Need Help ? Concerned About Your Child ? You Can Contact :

Jan Trust : promoting women's rights and counter-extremism on 0208 889 9433

NSPCC : if you believe your child is in danger on 0808 800 5000

The Parent Zone : for issues around technology on 020 7704 0415

