Should I be worried?

Incidents of extremism and radicalisation are rare and as such when they do occur, make the news. As with all safeguarding issues, it is important to be vigilant, and not complacent, but also not to panic.

This guide will give you the information to make informed decisions and help safeguard your child.

What is extremism and radicalisation?

Prevent 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. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces”

Radicalisation is defined by the UK Government within this context as “the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.”

What is extremism and radicalisation is not!

We live in a wonderfully diverse world, with both differences and similarities to celebrate. Exploring religious and different social beliefs, in a peaceful and non-violent way, is part of growing up and should not be confused with something more sinister.

The best way to PREVENT extremism and radicalisation is by open discussion and increased understanding of each other.

“Peace can not be kept by force; it can only be achieved by understanding”

-Albert Einstein

What can I do as a parent to help my child?

You know your child better than anybody else. Having open, honest conversations on a regular basis will allow your child to explore new ideas in a safe environment.

Talk to your child about their online viewing. Social media such as YouTube and Facebook can be used to groom children towards a certain point of view.

Discuss different points of view concerns topics in the news, modelling that there is always more than one point of view.

Encourage your child to take an active part in their local community. This could be part of a sports club, social group, volunteering. Getting out, meeting and talking to people around you helps to understand and become part of a community.
What is the school doing to PREVENT extremism and radicalisation?

All members of the school staff have received specific training from an accredited Prevent trainer.

Children are encouraged to explore ideas of community, belonging and tolerance during PSHE lessons.

Issues in world news are discussed with the children in an age appropriate and open fashion, allowing children to discuss different points of view and ideas.

We have updated our safeguarding procedures to reflect statutory requirements in the Section 26 of the Government’s Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

We have direct contact with the Local Prevent Project Officer and other external professionals to receive on-going support and two way communication.

Where can I get support?

The school website has a dedicated section concerning safeguarding matters.

Who should I contact if I have a concern?

For High risk Prevent enquiries or emergencies
Tel: 999

For low risk or non-emergencies
Speak to the school’s Designated Safeguarding Lead, or
Tel: 101 and ask for the Local Policing Team

A Parents’ Guide to PREVENTing Extremism and Radicalisation

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world”

- Nelson Mandela

With grateful thanks to Duncan Gordon Taunton Group