

briefing bulletin

Department for Education

The Prevent duty

Departmental advice for schools and childcare providers

June 2015

Prevent duty

a parent and teacher guide to radicalisation and extremism

This document is designed to help teachers, parents and carers identify potenial indicators of radicalisation and extremism and what actions to take if you believe that young people in your care are at risk.

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The Internet provides our children with a wealth of information and social media sites provide extremist groups with the tools to distribute their ideologies and recruit new members.

Radicalisation is the process of someone developing or being groomed to adopt extremist views. As a parent or teacher, you may be worried about how this might affect children in your care as the number of cases of young people being drawn into terrorist groups grows on a daily basis.

You know your child better than anyone else and your relationship is the foundation to keeping your child safe and supporting their social development. However, as children grow up they may seek different identities. We have listed below some guidelines on how to recognise any dangers or warning signs.

Recognising signs of radicalisation

You may ask yourself how your child could be drawn towards extremist ideologies. There are many reasons this could happen as they may be searching for answers to faith, a desire for adventure, low self-esteem or they be drawn to a group who offer them an identity or make them feel they need to make a difference.

Signs may include:

- Changes to their character.
- Socialising with different peer groups.
- Losing interest in friends and changes to normal activity.
- Glorifying violence.
- Possessing illegal literature or searching online for extremist sites.
- Becoming secretive.

Help and Advice

- Know where your child is, who they are with and check this for yourself.
- Know your child's friends and their families.
- Talk to your child about what they see and read in the media.
- Discuss the dangers of engaging on line with people they don't know.
- Know your child's on line activity and what social media sites they use.
- If you feel there is a risk of your child leaving the country, consider what precautions you could take to prevent them travelling, i.e. locking passports in a safe place.
- If you have concerns about your child turning to illegal behaviour, call CEOP on +44 (0)870 000 3344 or visit the CEOP website at <u>www.ceop.police.uk</u>



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