



Safeguarding children from Radicalisation and Extremism

Information for parents.

The Counter Terrorism and security Act which came into force on 1st July 2015 requires schools to have due regard to the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism.

This is known as **The Prevent Duty**.

The duty of all schools including Trimley St Mary Primary School is to respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat that is faced from those who promote it and prevent people being drawn into it.

Home office guidance places the importance upon schools as being "safe places that allow pupils to understand and discuss sensitive topics such as terrorism and extremist ideas and to enable children to challenge these ideas."

Schools are advised not to limit discussion of these issues and be mindful of their existing duties to forbid political indoctrination and secure a balanced presentation of ideas.

As part of our PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic) lessons, through assemblies through the School Council and generally through the culture of the school, pupils are given opportunities to explore sensitive and controversial issues as part of this curriculum, at an age appropriate level.

Children are encouraged to ask questions, challenge themselves and their thinking. They are taught to recognise and manage risk, make safer choices and recognise when pressure from others threatens their personal safety and well-being.

At our school we look closely at our school community, our local community and our global community. By teaching citizenship we equip children to think critically and make reasoned arguments, teach children about topics such as democracy and the need for mutual respect.

Our school promotes British values openly, by helping children to develop an understanding of how they as pupils and citizens can influence decision making through the democratic process. We openly discuss the importance of one's own beliefs, tolerance and appreciation of the beliefs of others, fundamentally that the freedom to choose and hold faiths and beliefs is protected by law. We also through our curriculum and procedures promote the importance of identifying and combating discrimination.

ADVICE TO PARENTS –protecting your children from radicalisation

Parents and carers should:-

- Know where their child is and who they are with.
- Know their child's friends and families.
- Allow and encourage debate and questioning on local and world events.
- Encourage their child to show an interest in the local community and show respect for people from all faiths and backgrounds.
- Know what social media and messaging sites their child uses.
- Ensure their child understands that people who tell them to keep secrets from family or teachers may be trying to harm them.
- Parents are urged to take action to safeguard their children by accessing support if:-
- Their behaviour becomes secretive, they display sympathy for extremist causes, glorify violence or advocate messages espoused by illegal organisations.

Please approach the school for further advice in confidence

Prevent: key definitions

Page 21 of the Home Office guidance on the Prevent strategy, has definition of these key terms. These include:

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 and beliefs. This also includes calls for the death of members of the armed forces, whether in the UK or overseas

Radicalisation: the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups

Terrorism: an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people, causes serious damage to property, or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause

Support Articles In addition to materials produced by local authorities and the police – such as the new “Prevent Tragedies” online campaign launched by the Police (<http://www.preventtragedies.co.uk/>) - there are online resources produced by civil society groups which provide valuable advice, for example ‘Families Matter’ (<http://www.familiesmatter.org.uk/>), (run by Families Against Stress and Trauma).