



Driffield School and Sixth Form PREVENT Guidance

Supporting the Prevention of Extremism and Radicalisation

Introduction

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

This guidance provides details of the East Riding multi-agency process and expectations which enable an appropriate intervention to be put in place in response to such safeguarding concerns. The guidance outlines the designated procedure for sharing relevant information and where appropriate making referrals (i.e. via the 'Channel' process – see below)

Radicalisation is defined as the process by which people come to support terrorism and extremism and, in some cases, to then participate in terrorist groups.

'**Extremism** is 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, whether in this country or overseas' (HM Government Prevent Strategy 2011).

Equality, Diversity and Community Cohesion

Governors and staff at Driffield School and Sixth Form strive to provide an environment that is nurturing, supportive, safe and caring and a school ethos that is inclusive. The school aims to teach pupils to understand others, to value diversity and to promote and protect an individual's human rights.

It is our responsibility to prepare our young people for life in a modern Britain in which the diversity of people's background and circumstances is appreciated and valued by all. Our aim is to develop a society in which strong positive relationships exist and similar life opportunities are available to all. Such a community based upon a common vision of mutual respect, tolerance and individual liberty promotes a sense of identity and belonging which is the strongest safeguard against terrorism.

National Guidance and Strategies

CONTEST is the Government's counter terrorist strategy, its aim to reduce the risk to the UK and its interests overseas from terrorism.

PREVENT is a key part of the CONTEST strategy, its aim 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 activity. PREVENT happens before any criminal activity takes place. It is about recognising, supporting and protecting people who might be susceptible to radicalisation. The PREVENT strategy objectives are:

- **Ideology:** respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it.

- **Individuals:** prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support
- **Institutions:** work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation which we need to address.

CHANNEL is a key element of the PREVENT strategy and is a multi-agency approach to protect people at risk from radicalisation. CHANNEL uses existing collaboration between local authorities, statutory partners (such as education and health sectors, Children's Social Care, Youth and Family Support and Youth Offending Service), the police and the local community:

- Identity individuals at risk of being drawn into terrorism
- Assess the nature and extent of that risk and
- Develop the most appropriate support plan for the individuals concerned

Channel is about safeguarding children and adults from being drawn into committing terrorist-related activity. It is about early intervention to protect and divert people away from the risk they face before illegality occurs.

WRAP – workshops raising awareness of PREVENT. All organisations should have awareness of the PREVENT agenda.

Partnership Working

Awareness of PREVENT and an understanding of the risks it is intended to address are both vital. Professionals within schools are expected to help to protect children from extremist and violent views in the same ways that they help to safeguard pupils from drugs, gang violence or alcohol.

Driffield School and Sixth Form's work on PREVENT should be seen in this context. The purpose must be to protect young people from harm and to ensure that they are taught in a way that is consistent with our stated values and the law. Driffield School and Sixth Form needs to be aware of the PREVENT agenda and the various forms radicalisation takes. We will provide training in recognising the signs and indicators for concern that pupils could be at risk and how to respond appropriately when the need arises.

Vulnerability/Risk indicators

The following lists are not exhaustive and all or none may be present in individual cases of concern. Nor does it mean that vulnerable young people experiencing these factors are automatically at risk of exploitation for the purposes of extremism. The accepted view is that a complex relationship between the various aspects of an individual's identity determines their vulnerability to extremism.

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

Vulnerability

- **Identity crisis** Distance from cultural/religious heritage and uncomfortable with their place in the society around them.
- **Personal crisis** Family tensions; sense of isolation; adolescence ; low self esteem; disassociating from existing friendship group and becoming involved with a new and different group of friends; searching for answers to questions about identity, faith and belonging.

- **Personal circumstances** Migration; local community tensions; events affecting country or region of origin; alienation from UK values; having a sense of grievance that is triggered by personal experience of racism or discrimination or aspects of Government policy
- **Unmet aspirations** Perceptions of injustice; feeling of failure; rejection of civic life
- **Criminality** Experiences of imprisonment; poor resettlement/reintegration, previous involvement with criminal groups.

Access to extremist influences

- Reason to believe that the young person associates with those known to be involved in extremism
- Possession or distribution of extremist literature/other media material likely to incite racial/religious hatred or acts of violence.
- Use of closed network groups via electronic media for the purpose of extremist activity.

Experiences, Behaviours and Influences

- Experience of peer, social, family or faith group rejection.
- International events in areas of conflict and civil unrest had a personal impact on the young person resulting in a noticeable change in behaviour
- Verbal or written support of terrorist attacks
- First hand experience of racial or religious hate crime
- 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
- Pending a decision on their immigration/national status

More critical risk factors include:

- Being in contact with extremist recruiters
- Articulating support for extremist causes or leaders
- Accessing extremist websites, especially those with a social networking element
- Possessing extremist literature
- Justifying the use of violence to solve societal issues
- Joining extremist organisations
- Significant changes to appearance/behaviour

Referral and intervention process

Any identified concerns resulting from observed behaviour or reported conversations which suggest that a pupil supports terrorism and /or extremism MUST follow the normal Driffield School and Sixth Form safeguarding procedures and be reported to the Child Protection Co-ordinator; (ie Deborah Dalton - Child Protection Coordinator or Lorna Cage -Deputy Child Protection Officer)

Where a young Person is thought to be in need or there is a risk of significant harm which requires investigation then a referral to Children's Social Care should be made in line with the school child protection policy (even though parental consent may be withheld). However it should be recognised that concerns of this nature related to violent extremism are most likely to require a police investigation. Therefore as part of the referral process the designated professional will also raise an electronic referral to Channel (prevent@humbersidpnn.police.uk 01482 220754)

Channel referral process

Some concerns which are identified may have a security dimension to them. For this reason, it is important that liaison with the police forms an early part of all investigations. Humberside Police

will carry out an initial assessment and, if appropriate, set up a multi-agency meeting to agree actions for supporting the individual. If it is deemed that there are no concerns around radicalisation other ways to provide appropriate and targeted support will be considered for the young person.