



Extremism and Radicalisation

Prevent

Information for Schools and Colleges

2016

Background

- Nationally and locally young people are being recruited into groups promoting hatred, discrimination and sometimes violence against those who are not part of their organisation.
- Several hundred young British people have travelled to Syria and Iraq to fight with IS.
- Others have been recruited to commit acts of terrorism in this country.



- Those who are more vulnerable to radicalisation could have a grievance, be already in the criminal justice system or have issues of self-esteem and identity for example. Some have been on the autistic spectrum.
- The internet is a powerful way to entice young people with images glorifying violence and promising excitement and a cause to fight for.
- Extremism can take many forms including promoting Jihad, far right ideologies, anti-semitism, anti-Islamic views, anti-capitalist views etc.



Local case – Michael Piggin

- Michael was arrested in Loughborough in 2013 age 17, for threatening lads in the street with a knife.
- When his home was searched police found a stack of weapons, a bomb and detailed plans to attack local targets and individuals he knew.
- He was fascinated with the Columbine schools massacre and with Breivik and was self taught, not having access to the internet.
- He was considered by the courts to be extremely dangerous and is now detained in a medical facility.





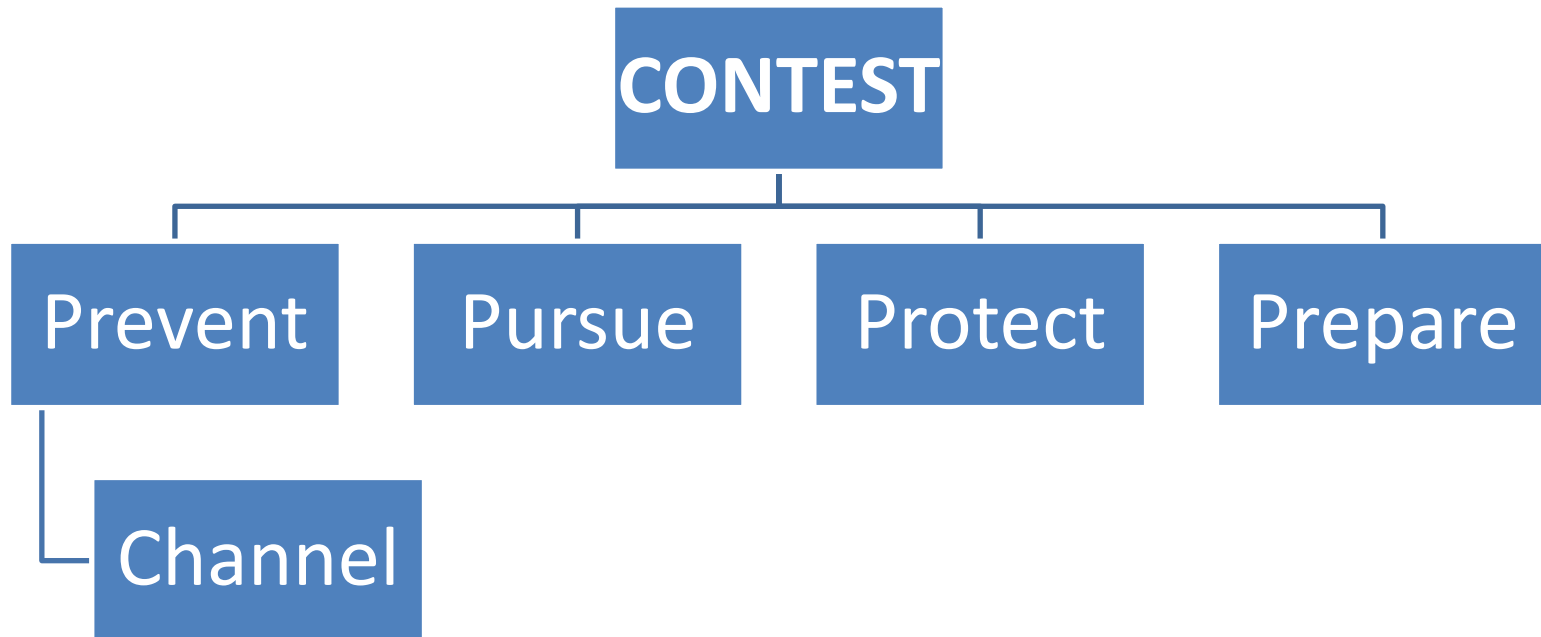
Prevent Duty

The Counter-terrorism Bill 2015 places a duty on schools and colleges to safeguard pupils from being drawn into terrorism.

- Schools are expected to assess risk to their pupils based on the potential risk in the area.
- They will need clear protocols around visiting speakers.
- Staff training should enable the identification of young people at risk, the ability to challenge extremist ideas which legitimise terrorism, and knowledge about how to refer.
- Young people must not be able to access extremist ideas online in school.
- Ofsted already has regard to the school's approach to keeping pupils safe from the risk of radicalisation and extremism.



UK Counter-terrorism strategy



- Channel is a local monthly multi-agency meeting which considers the referrals made to Prevent. A preliminary assessment is made and a support plan is created. This is all pre-criminal and requires consent.



How to refer

- Leicestershire Prevent Team 0116 2486726.
The Channel police practitioner will make an initial assessment and advise.
- If the person is not suitable for Channel they can be directed to safeguarding and support services.



Dimensions of risk

- **Engagement** – admission of interest, sympathy to extremist ideology
- **Intent** – indication that someone is ready to use violence to promote their views; justify offending
- **Capability** –requires skills, resources and networks to be successful



Promoting British Values

- In November 2014 the DfE published advice stating that schools should promote values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.
- This also means challenging opinions or behaviours in schools that are contrary to these values.



What children need to know and understand

- How people can influence decision-making through the democratic process.
- That living under the rule of law protects people.
- The right to choose other faiths and beliefs is protected in law.
- People with other faiths and beliefs should be accepted and tolerated.



Ways schools can achieve this

As age appropriate

- How democracy and the law works in Britain in contrast to some other forms of government.
- Enable the voice of pupils to be heard.
- Demonstrate how democracy works e.g. voting for school council members, issues, mock elections.
- Teach about a range of faiths.
- Consider extra-curricula activity that promotes these values.



Relevant Documents

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/promoting-fundamental-british-values-through-smsc>
- https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/118194/channel-guidance.pdf
- [http://course.ncalt.com/Channel General Awareness/01/index.html](http://course.ncalt.com/Channel%20General%20Awareness/01/index.html)

