

## Help and advice

energies - sports, clubs, hobbies; they all provide identity and a sense of community. It's just a case of finding the right one.

Allow open and honest discussion. Young people are naturally curious. Stopping discussion about extremism, radicalisation and terrorism is only likely to make it more interesting to your child.

PREVENTING



TERRORISM

*Prevention is better than cure*

## Help and further advice

What can you do if you feel that your child's behaviour crosses the line into extremism?

- ◆ Talk to your child.
- ◆ Encourage others that they look up to such as friends and family to talk to them.
- ◆ Contact school and ask to speak to Mrs Lawrence, our Safeguarding Officer.
- ◆ Contact a specialist organisation.

## If you have concerns

If you have concerns about your child relating to extremism and radicalisation, you can receive support and advice from our Safeguarding Officer, Mrs Lawrence or your local police by telephoning 101. They will treat the matter with total confidence and will do all they can to help to prevent your child turning to behaviour that breaks the law.

You can also contact Victims on 01600 891 548 for free, confidential advice.



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# Extremism & Radicalisation

## A Guide For Parents



## Introduction

As a parent, you may be worried about how extremism and radicalisation might affect your child.

This leaflet has been put together to help you understand more about extremism and radicalisation and how you can deal with these issues.

### Who are Victvs

Victvs work with schools and colleges throughout the UK to help make sure that people have a better understanding of the dangers of young people becoming involved with violent extremism.

For free, confidential advice about these issues, call 01600 891 548.



## What are extremism and radicalisation

Any idea can be taken to an extreme, but the type of **extremism** that this leaflet looks at is when ideas and opinions lead on to violence.

We often hear on the news of young people that have been radicalised and drawn into terrorist groups, but what does that mean? In simple terms, **radicalisation** is the process of someone developing extremist views.

### Should I be worried?

Despite the high levels of media attention given to these issues, the chances of them affecting you as a parent are very low.

It is important to remember that most people will never support terrorism and that the amount of young people that become involved in violent extremism is very small.



*Talk to someone if you  
have concerns*

### What is the government doing about extremism and radicalisation?

The government have introduced a law to make it compulsory for places such as schools and hospitals to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

This means that frontline staff are working hard to ensure that young people are protected from extremism and radicalisation.

## What to look out for

You know your child better than anyone else and are best placed to notice any changes in their behaviour. Talk to someone if you have concerns (See over the page for who to talk to). You can also contact our Safeguarding Officer, Mrs Lawrence.



It is the job of everyone to prevent the radicalisation of young people. Parents, teachers, friends and family all have a part to play in making sure that extremist ideas are challenged.

Unfortunately, there isn't a checklist of what makes someone become an extremist — every individual is unique.

### Remember

- ◆ Young people want to push the boundaries. They are searching for an identity in a confusing world.
- ◆ Encouraging young people to learn about and understand alternative points of view is an essential role as a parent.

