Safeguarding Pupils who are Vulnerable to Extremism

Extremism and radicalisation is another part of safeguarding children and young people. As with any other concern, the risk of harm is raised when young people are vulnerable and is often noticed when students change their behaviour, clothing or attitudes.

Ofsted look carefully at how schools are safeguarding children from extremism and radicalisation. This is important for all schools, not just urban school with large Muslim populations, for example, a catholic school in Suffolk was challenged by Ofsted about how it was tackling extremism and teaching children about life in modern Britain.

One aspect of safeguarding children and young people from radicalisation is set out in 'Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools'. This guidance set out British values as:

- Democracy

- The rule of law

- Individual liberty

- Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

Government 'Prevent' Strategy

The government approach to reducing the risk of terrorism is called 'CONTEST' and has four parts to it:

Protect - to strengthen protection against a terrorist attack;

Prepare - to mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack;

Pursue - to stop terrorist attacks;

Prevent - to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

Definition of Extremism

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. Calls for the death of members of British armed forces is also included in this definition.

Source: Prevent Duty Guidance in England and Wales HM Govt. 2015