Safeguarding Children Online
Radicalisation and Extremism

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Safeguarding Children

1. Safeguarding children - the action we take to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm - is everyone’s responsibility. Everyone who comes into contact with children and families has a role to play.

2. Safeguarding is defined as:
   - protecting children from maltreatment;
   - preventing impairment of children's health or development;
   - ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and
   - taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

- Children Act 2004
Food, water, sleep
Protection from violence and harm
Love, affection, belonging
Esteem needs
Fulfilling potential
Protection from violence and harm

Food, water, sleep
Vulnerable Situations:

- domestic violence
- missing
- privately fostered
- child trafficking
- sexual exploitation
- drug and alcohol abuse
- mental ill health
- sexual abuse
- radicalisation
A graphic from a police guide for school staff showing possible indicators of ‘radicalisation’. [SOURCE: ACPO]
London Child Protection Procedures

Policy and thresholds which apply across London

www.londonscb.gov.uk
Protecting children at risk of radicalisation

- Children and young people can suffer harm when exposed to extremist ideology.
- This harm can range from a child adopting or complying with extreme views which limit their social interaction and full engagement with their education, to children being groomed for involvement in violent attacks.
• Children can be exposed to harmful, extremist ideology in the immediate or extended family, or relatives/family friends who live outside the family home but have influence over the child’s life. Older children or young people might self-radicalise over the internet or through the influence of their peer network – in this instance their parents might not know about this or feel powerless to stop their child’s radicalisation.
Grooming process
Grooming process

Gang membership
Grooming process

Sexual abuse

Gang membership
Grooming process

Sexual abuse

Child Sexual exploitation

Gang membership
Sexual abuse
Child Sexual exploitation
Domestic Violence
Physical and emotional abuse
Gang membership
Grooming process
• Pay attention
• Ask questions
• Stay involved
Duty to co-operate and refer

All professionals in agencies with contact with children and members of their families must make a referral to LA children’s social care if there are signs that a child or a young person:

– Is suffering significant harm through abuse or neglect
– Is likely to suffer significant harm in the future

The timing of such referrals is key to intervention, and must be made on the same working day of identification or disclosure of harm or risk of harm.
Case Study

Child O
Reporting
What stops a child from telling

- They may not recognise the abuse
- Direct threats and fear of punishment
- Awareness of implications
- Guilt and shame
- **Lack of opportunity**
- They may not know how to describe abuse
- Children ‘tell’ in different ways. Sometimes it is not the spoken word, but through play and creative work
In school

Talk to your child protection lead
- who will report to your LA MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) or Duty Team
• Police 101

• Safer Internet Centre
  helpline for professionals
  0844 381 4772
  helpline@saferinternet.org.uk
What happens if you are worried about an adult in school?

• If worried about any adult in your setting – tell your headteacher
  **same working day**

• If you are worried about your headteacher – tell your chair of governors and the LADO
  (Local Authority Designated Officer)
  **same working day**

(Whistleblowing Policy)
Challenging your ‘friends’

Dear zzz
I'm writing a private message because I noticed you liked a post from 'Britain First' with a photo if zzzz and I didn't know if you knew anything about them. They have a huge number of followers and appear on face value to be a patriotic group. They are in fact a very right wing extremist group and they use their Facebook 'shares' to reach new audiences.
They posted a photo of a starving dog in 2014 with a link to donate to a charity to help, when in fact the money was going straight into their organisation; they pulled a similar stunt with a poppy appeal. Some members were in the BNP but considered it too moderate. Britain First advocates taking direct violent action against all Muslims in the UK. I would hate you, to be linked with them, even if only in a FB post.
British Values
Defining spiritual, moral, social and cultural development

**spiritual** ... ability to be reflective about their own beliefs, religious or otherwise, that inform their perspective on life and their interest in and respect for different people’s faiths, feelings and values

**moral** ... ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong, readily apply this understanding in their own lives and, in so doing, respect the civil and criminal law of England

**interest in investigating and offering reasoned views about moral and ethical issues, and being able to understand and appreciate the viewpoints of others on these issues**.

**social** ... acceptance and engagement with the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs; the pupils develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.

**cultural** ... interest in exploring, improving understanding of and showing respect for different faiths and cultural diversity, and the extent to which they understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity, as shown by their tolerance and attitudes towards different religious, ethnic and socio-economic groups in the local, national and global communities.
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British Values

Democracy

Rule of Law

Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

Individual Liberty

Develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes to participate fully in and make positive contribution to, life in modern Britain
Closing remarks ...
What next - Us

• We will send a conference digest to you, including ppts, links etc
• Some of these materials will be added to esafety.lgfl.net
• We’ll keep looking for new materials to help address esafety, harm and abuse
What next - You

• Share with your staff – child protection is everyone’s responsibility
• Check your esafety policy is up to date
• Raise the profile of this topic
• Challenge and question colleagues who inadvertently share extreme content/views/links
• Support young people – social media is ever changing
Thank You