

Wood End Park Academy Parent Information Session 3

- Prevent and Local Safeguarding
- E-Safety

What is Prevent?

The government describes the purpose of Prevent as “to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.” Prevent hopes to avoid acts of terrorism by intervening before individuals become radicalised, and stopping them from committing acts of violence for whatever extreme ideologies they have come to believe.



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.

What is extremism and radicalisation?

- ▶ Extremism under the Prevent duty is defined as “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.” Extremism can lead to individuals becoming radicalised, supporting or committing violent acts as a means to promote their extremist ideals. They hold negative views about anyone from a different ethnicity, culture, gender, race or sexual identity.
- ▶ Radicalisation is defined as “the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

Signs of Radicalisation

People getting involved with extremism can act in many different ways. Here are just a few examples to look out for:

- Isolating themselves from family and friends
- Talking as if from a scripted speech, spending more time online
- Unwillingness to discuss their views, they are right
- A sudden disrespectful attitude towards others, talking about us and them
- Increased levels of anger, in general, against the media, politicians, different communities
- Increased secretiveness, especially around internet use.
- New tattoos of numbers or symbols you have never seen before
- Talking in support of individuals and groups who are racist



These are examples of what vulnerability might look like – not an exhaustive list

What do we do?



At Wood End Park Academy we:

- Develop learning experiences where children get to respect and understand different viewpoints and religions
- Children know that discrimination will not be tolerated and is not cool
- We build up the self esteem, confidence and voice of each child (British Values)
- We pick up on and challenge extreme views



Local Safeguarding

Colours representing gangs within the Borough

Axis have been made aware of the colours worn by gangs within Borough.

- West Drayton - Green
- Hillingdon - Blue
- Hayes - Red

Axis asks professionals to continue sharing information regarding gangs to help assist the West Area Gangs unit. It is important to track who is linked to what gang and the risks this may mean for your children as well as professionals if out in the community with them.

Axis have also been monitoring the Instagram page [Westlondondrill_](#) as this page often adds Childrens score profiles listing incidents they may have been involved in along with their tag names and gang association.

New drugs alert across London

Axis have received information from the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) concerning multiple drug-related incidents that have occurred recently in London. The OHID is a government unit within the British Department of Health and Social Care that leads national efforts to improve public health policy across England .

The Metropolitan Police have seized a substance which is beige / yellow in appearance, and which has been confirmed positive for Metonitazene. Metonitazene is regarded as a dangerous substance which has a similar toxicity to fentanyl. Given this finding, internally, the Police have requested that testing of all brown/ beige/ yellow coloured powders and suspected heroin powders and substances is submitted for forensic examination.

There has also been concerns about harms in several central London boroughs associated with a substance reported to be Spice. Two deaths and at least three hospitalisations across several boroughs were reported. At this stage the service is not able to confirm whether the individual incidents relate to adulterated substances or are associated with poly drug use of “normal” substances. However, because of the number of incidents action is being taken across these boroughs to alert drug users and those who work with them of possible increased harm.

Blue Whale Challenge

Axis have been informed of Hillingdon children possibly taking part in the Blue Whale Challenge. The Blue Whale Challenge is a social media challenge that encourages children, teenagers & other users to perform specific tasks, over the course of 50 days that are assigned to them by an anonymous “group administrator.” The tasks escalate throughout the 50 days and on the last day of the challenge the only way to “win” is to die by suicide.

What can parents/professionals do?

Get involved, have a healthy dialogue with your child about their day and social media.

- Pay attention to any changes in your child’s behaviour, especially if they become reserved, withdrawn, or fearful of social media
- Urge your child to report any misbehavior they encounter online and on social media
- Teach your child to keep private things private, especially on the internet. If they are struggling, encourage your child to confide in you, a family member, or a trusted adult
- Parents/carers remember that “loving” your child means taking actions that may make your child not “like” you at times
- Parents/carers - It’s okay to take your child’s phone, search through it and make sure they are interacting with people you know (and in a way that’s healthy)



E-safety

Keeping children safe online

The internet is great in supporting children's learning but it also poses threats of cyber-bullying and exposure to inappropriate material.

What are children doing online?

- search for information or content on search engines like [Google](#) and [Bing](#)
- share images and watch videos through websites or mobile apps like [Instagram](#), [Pinterest](#), [TikTok](#) and [YouTube](#)
- use social networking websites like [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)
- write or reply to messages on forums and message boards
- play games alone or with others through websites, apps or game consoles
- chat with other people through online games, game consoles, webcams, social networks and tools like [Whatsapp](#) and [Discord](#)

There are age restrictions on social networking sites to protect children:

- Whats App – an instant messaging app (16 years of age and above)
- Instagram – photo and video sharing app (13 years of age and above)
- Facebook – a social networking site (16 years of age and above)
- **Most popular** - Tik Tok – video sharing app (16 years of age and above)
- **Most popular** - Discord - an instant messaging app (13 years of age and above)
- Online games – children can also communicate through various consoles. It is important that you know the contacts your child has stored on their phones and games. Numbers can easily be exchanged and added to create groups containing contacts unknown to your child. This can lead to inappropriate and secret messaging.

Keeping children safe online

What to do at home

- Parental locks and filters
- Monitor the use of internet at home-in a public place in your home
- Limit time on the internet
- Check browsing history on search engines
- Talk to your child about e-safety

We discuss e-safety with the children at school. We also have e-safety charters in each class that is updated regularly.

New apps - Hillingdon update

Hillingdon would like to raise awareness in social media Applications (apps) being used by children. The digital world is evolving daily with new social media platforms, apps, and devices. Undesirable effects include: grooming, cyberbullying, sexting, posting hateful messages or content and participating in negative group conversations.

Hillingdon have been informed of the app 'YUBO' formally known as 'Yellow' which is being advertised as a dating app for under 18s. The app is being referred to as 'Tinder for Teens'. Pitched towards teenagers and young adults aged 13 to 17, the app allows users to create video livestreams with up to 10 friends. The app heavily promotes live streaming as the primary chat method, allows chat groups to be set up with no filter on content or topics along with features very similar to apps like "Tinder" such as swiping left/right on profiles for people in your area. There have been reports of sexual offences after meetings arranged through this app, and concerns are raised due the content young people can be exposed to using it.



Any questions...