



Prevent Education Officer

Kent and Medway

Newsletter July 2021

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We hope this newsletter finds you well. Jill and I are available to offer support and guidance to settings from Early Years to Secondary. We hope you find the contents of the Newsletter helpful.

As this term comes to an end, it has been so nice to be able to meet some of you again in the classroom. Jill and I have been able to deliver numerous student sessions in person and have been very impressed by the level of engagement with the sessions delivered. We are now taking bookings for the new academic year. We can offer training in your setting, or virtually, for staff, students, and parents. Please get in touch if you wish to discuss your individual requirements. You can find our training offer below.



Prevent Training for
Education Settings.pdf

Parent Online Risks Reminders

As the summer school holidays starts it is a good opportunity to remind parents about the risks that come with the increased time children and young people spend online. They may be exposed to inappropriate and extreme content and narratives. The interactive guide embedded below has been

designed for sharing with parents and carers to help them understand and minimize the risks posed by extreme online content, hate and misinformation. It has links and resources to help adults:

- Understand, risks and issues.
- Know where to get help if they need to.
- Find resources.
- Develop practical strategies.
- Start conversations.
- Build the digital resilience of the children and young people in their lives.



Parent toolkit_online
issues.pdf

Internet Matters have created a video that may be shared with parents to highlight grooming for extremism. It is important that parents are aware of this type of safeguarding risk. The links below can be sent out with your safeguarding information. <https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/radicalisation/>

Act Early partners with Netmums

July has seen the launch of the Counter Terrorism Partnership with online platform “Netmums” as part of their work to protect children from being radicalised online. This is an excellent opportunity to reach more parents online and highlight the issues of radicalisation for extremism. Please share this link in your communication to parents.

[How To Talk To Your Child About Radicalisation And Keep Them Safe Online - Netmums](#)

Prevent Policy Updates.

It is important that your Safeguarding Policy includes relevant Prevent information. This should be displayed on your school website as part of your contextual safeguarding policy. Where a Prevent referral is received from an educational setting the PEO will review the schools open-source safeguarding policy to see what advice and support is needed. The PEO’s can work with you to ensure that school policies are relevant and up to date. We have guidance

documents we can send that will assist you in developing and workable self-assessment framework for your setting. Please contact the PEO for your area to arrange assistance with your policies.

Possible Signs of radicalisation & extremism

It can be difficult to identify when a young person may be being drawn into extremism. We know that Radicalisation is a process, but that may look very different for everyone. Below is an idea of signs that you may notice. This is not an exhaustive list and not all factors may be present. Remember that PREVENT is concerned with Safeguarding. As with all safeguarding concerns sometimes it is the professional instinct that something is not right that is the best guide.

Factors may include:

1. Talking positively about/spending time with people or groups who promote hate and violence.
2. Isolating themselves from family and friends.
3. Secretive about where they go and/or what they are doing.
4. Abusive, aggressive views, comments, and threats towards certain groups of people (faith, ethnicity etc)
5. Fascination with weapons, chemicals, explosives, extremist, or terrorist events
6. Trying to recruit or groom others to an extremist ideology.
7. Talking as if from a scripted speech.
8. Refusing to listen to other views - possibly confrontational.
9. Possession of violent extremist literature or viewing online.
10. Joining online chatrooms where extreme narrative is shared.

You can find more information about the signs of Radicalisation in the following links:

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/radicalisation#heading-top>

<https://educateagainsthate.com/signs-of-radicalisation/>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/radicalisation/learn-about-it/>

Advice for staff attending Channel Panel.

Please find enclosed some guidance for school staff attending Channel Panel. We appreciate that Channel Panel is not a routinely attended meeting for many school settings. It is important that you feel confident and understand the expectations of the Panel meeting. Please contact Jill or Sally if you have any questions or concerns about Channel.



Kent and Medway
Channel Panel Inform

Reporting online racist abuse.

You will all be aware that there has been a huge amount of online racist abuse aimed at the three young England players who were involved in the penalties at the England v Italy final.

This may well be a subject of discussion among pupils in school who may come across such hateful content. Much of this abuse is being automatically and swiftly removed by social media companies, although some of the less mainstream platforms may not do so. It is always good to encourage young people to report hateful material they find online directly. Please visit the True Vision website, where they can get advice on how they can report to the platforms and can report illegal material to the police.

https://www.report-it.org.uk/reporting_internet_hate_crime

Kent Police Schools Officers

You may recall from my previous newsletters that Kent Police are appointing Schools Police Officers. Jill and I have been working closely with these officers concerning Prevent. It is important to stress that schools **must not** triage Prevent referrals by passing their concerns to the Schools Police Officers. A Prevent referral is a safeguarding referral and should come directly from the school raising the concern. If you have an immediate concern you must report via 999 or 101 appropriately.

Challenging Anti-immigrant Bias in Schools and Society

WEBINAR SERIES

Tuesday, July 20–Thursday, July 22



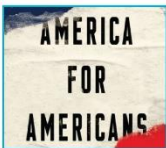
ADL Education and Re-Imagining Migration invite you to a series of three webinars that explore the impact of anti-immigrant bias through data, historical stories and children's literature. The series will offer solutions and strategies to create an environment in which our immigrant-origin students can succeed and, together with their families, develop a real sense of belonging.



Tues, July 20, 4pm ET: Challenging Anti-immigrant Bias in Schools

Explore promising practices for creating more welcoming and inclusive learning environments for immigrant-origin students.

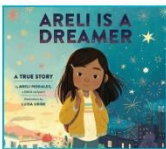
[Register here](#)



Wed, July 21, 4pm ET: Challenging Anti-immigrant Bias with History

Join Historian Erika Lee, the author of *America for Americans* and Adam Strom, Executive Director of Re-Imagining Migration, for an examination of anti-immigrant xenophobia past and the present.

[Register here](#)



Thurs, July 22, 4pm ET: Using Children's Literature to Foster Empathy and Challenge Anti-immigrant Bias

Areli Morales, author of *Areli is a Dreamer* and other panelists discuss how to use children's literature to help young people build empathy and feel empowered to address anti-immigrant bias in schools and society.

[Register here](#)

Making a Referral.

The National Prevent Referral form is to be used for all referrals. You can find the form here <https://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/strategies-and-policies/community-safety-and-crime-policies/contest/prevent>

Once completed the form should be emailed directly to prevent.referrals@kent.pnn.police.uk

Please ensure you include all known information and provide as much detail as possible about the person you are referring. Ensure all narratives are recorded verbatim regardless of the upsetting nature of the content. Please get in touch with your PEO if you would like to discuss any aspect of the referral.

Engaging parents

It is important that you engage parents in the referral process wherever possible. Making a referral should be a transparent process to make sure parents are well informed as to the safeguarding aims of Prevent. Best practice would be to discuss your concerns with the parents and advise that Prevent is a safeguarding process that may look at interventions to assist their child. This is subject to case-by-case risk assessment.

Engagement in the Channel Process

Once a referral has been submitted you may be contacted by one of the KCC Channel Coordinators. It is essential that the DSL or Headteacher engages with the process and responds to the information gathering requests that are sent out. This is to ensure that vital information is established to enable the referral to potentially be discussed at the Channel Panel. If your attendance is requested at the Panel, it is imperative that you attend. This is a partnership process, and as the referrer your input is key to Panel understanding the risks and vulnerabilities an individual may pose to themselves or others.

https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/channel_awareness/01-welcome.html

We hope you have found the information in this newsletter helpful. If you have any feedback or suggestions for future Newsletters, please get in touch.

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