



Kent and Medway, Prevent Education Officer Newsletter

January 2022

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May we take this opportunity to wish you a very Happy New Year. The start of term is always very busy and the same is said for us. We are currently planning our training and delivery for 2022 for sessions with staff, students, and parents. Please get in touch if you would like any further information on the training we can offer. Our training really focuses on the local context to help staff see the relevance of Prevent in their setting. All sessions are offered FREE of charge and can be adapted to a virtual delivery if necessary.

The Home Office e-learning resource is also a good way for staff to get a basic understanding of Prevent or a refresher. You can access the resource [here](#)

Free Staff Training

We are very pleased to be able to offer you the opportunity to engage with some interesting online workshops from specialist partners. Sessions are offered free of charge and spaces are limited. These sessions will benefit all school staff working directly with young people. Please book using the links provided below.

Fake News, Conspiracy Theory and Truth

These two-hour online workshops are for teachers and other professionals supporting children and young people in schools. The workshop is hosted by the Kent and Medway Prevent education team and delivered by Connect Futures.

Audience: The session addresses adults/professionals on the increasingly complex and sensitive topic, tackling perceptions around fake news, conspiracy theories, Incels and extremism, and how to support young people (and each other) to build resilience to fake news, conspiracy theory and related extremist ideologies.

How? Participants are encouraged to question and critically engage on the topic of fake news, conspiracy theories, Incels and extremism on and offline, and how perception may be manipulated. Signposting around next steps is included in this impactful workshop. Deepens knowledge, focuses on practical tools, and builds confidence in a safe space using interactive and engaging content.

Learning outcomes: Hate: Extreme or radical? Real or Fake News? Conspiracy Theories, *Incels* and Manipulation, Gaming & Deep Fakes, navigating social/media and Responding to extremism online Practical tools.

Post session: Certificate and (free) access to the online portal. **We will provide you with** free online access to our web-portal after the workshop (once you've individually completed the feedback form) which will contain further resources and a certificate.

Date: 17 January **Time:** 15:45 to 1745 - **Platform:** Microsoft teams

Follow this link to book your free place: [17.01.22 | KENT | Fake News \(Professionals\) | 15:45 -17:45](#)

Working with Young People on Controversial Issues

These online workshops are for teachers and other professionals supporting children and young people in schools. The workshop is hosted by the Kent and Medway Prevent education team and delivered by Equaliteach.

Dates: 27th January 2022 12.30pm. **Duration:** 2 hours

These live sessions online session provides educators with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to explore controversial topics with young people. The sessions aim is to explore the importance of opening conversations with young people on controversial issues. Creating a “safe space” for young people to be able to discuss thoughts and feelings is an essential tool in tackling extremist narrative.

Participants are supported to:

- Explore why it is important to open conversations about controversial issues with young people
- Look at the statutory duties on schools with regards to this work, including the duty to promote Fundamental British Values and the Prevent duty
- Undertake conversations with young people about controversial issues
- Explore how to effectively challenge prejudice and stereotypes.

Please click the link below to book your place.

[27.1.22 | Working with Young People on Controversial Issues | 12:30 -14:30](#)

Free staff resource to tackle online extremism “Going Too Far”

Going Too Far is a resource jointly developed by the Department for Education and London Grid for Learning that aims to promote critical thinking and build resilience in young people to extremism and online harms. Using recent case studies, and with discussion points built in, this interactive resource helps young people explore the techniques used by extremists and evaluate digital content, understand positive choices about who/what is trustworthy online, challenge extremist narratives and consider the consequences of their actions online.

The resource and all materials are free and can be used in short sessions directly with students. You can access the resource here: [Going Too Far? \(lgfl.org.uk\)](http://lgfl.org.uk)

A practical resource for teachers to empower young people to:

- recognise examples of extremist behaviour and content online
- understand actions which could be identified as criminal activity
- explore techniques used for persuasion and build resilience through critical thinking
- access support from trusted individuals and organisations

Each section includes:

- starter videos featuring experts or case studies
- scenario-based activities to promote discussion and reflection
- guidance to facilitate discussions in an age-appropriate way and consolidate learning



[practical tips and advice on how teachers can make the most of the new ‘Going Too Far?’ classroom resource](#)

Safer Internet Day 2022

Tuesday 8th February 2022 will be the 19th Safer Internet Day. The last 2 years have seen an increasing number of young people spending more time online than ever before. It is so important that our young people are digitally resilient and know how to keep themselves safe online. In the Prevent space we see how significant online influences can be for young people, and how radicalisers use the internet to befriend and groom. Schools acting as a “safe space” for discussion is crucial in being able to develop young peoples critical thinking around their internet safety. This year’s theme will focus on “Together for a better Internet” You can find information on how your school can support SID2022 here

<https://www.saferinternetday.org/>

We have also produced a Tool Kit (below) that is perfect for sharing with the Parents and the wider school community as part of your Safer Internet Day activities, it has been designed to help adults protect the children in their lives from online hate, extremism, and fake news.

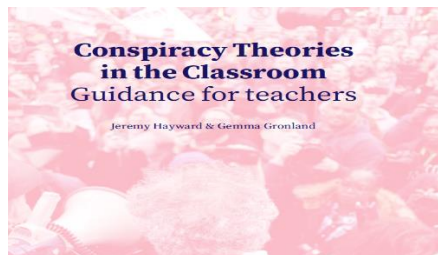


Parent toolkit_online
issues_kent.pdf

The “Going Too Far” resource mentioned above can assist in helping to generate discussion to build resilience to extremism through critical thinking. Please contact Jill or Sally if you would like any support with student sessions in your setting.

Covid 19 Conspiracy Theories

According to Ofcom, more than six in ten children aged 12-15 said that they found it hard to know what was true and what was false about COVID-19. New [guidance](#) by lecturers at the Institute of Education, UCL has been published which aims to provide teachers with general guidance on how schools might approach disinformation and conspiracy theories amongst pupils.



It is important to have discussions with young people on conspiracy theories, misinformation, and truth. Full Fact is a website you may find useful to use directly with

young people <https://fullfact.org/>



Harmful Sexual Behaviours and Extremism.

Often young people referred to Prevent have shared pornographic (sometimes illegal) content with peers, as well as expressing thoughts of sexual harm to others, and schools have been very anxious about managing the associated risk.

<https://www.cps.gov.uk/cps/news/grammar-schoolboy-sentenced-encouraging-far-right-terrorism-and-possessing-indecent-images>

This free toolkit has been designed by the Kent Safeguarding Children Multi-Agency Partnership (KSCMP) and The Education People collaboratively to help schools and colleges assess strengths that can be built upon, as well as weaknesses that should be addressed, to tackle peer-on-peer sexual abuse and inappropriate sexual behaviours. We encourage you to use this audit toolkit so that, as a school, you can be assured you are being as robust and thorough as possible when addressing any issues relating to harmful sexual behaviour and peer-on-peer sexual abuse. Feedback from schools that have been inspected by Ofsted, primary and secondary have indicated that it will be something that will be explored on an inspection. Looking at the tool, it is a blueprint for education settings to analyse their policy and procedure and wider intervention with students, so may well increase confidence and give practical solutions for schools. You can access the Toolkit

here: <https://www.kscmp.org.uk/guidance/safeguarding-in-education>

The Alice Ruggles Trust provide some free resources that can be used with young people. Aimed at key stage 4 (14- to 16-year-old) students, the three lesson plans and accompanying materials promote awareness of unhealthy relationship behaviours and stalking in order to help protect young people from the potential risks in such situations. The focus throughout is on raising awareness of the steps young people can take to support their safety and emotional wellbeing whilst reinforcing that stalking and harassment are both socially unacceptable and illegal. [Alice Ruggles Trust Relationship Safety Resource for key stage 4-5 | pshe-association.org.uk](https://www.aliceruggles.org.uk/relationship-safety-resource-for-key-stage-4-5)



PSHE resources such as these are particularly important in the light of the Ofsted’s [Review of sexual abuse in schools and colleges](#) published in June 2021, which documents the scale and nature of sexual abuse in schools and the increasing "normalisation" of unhealthy relationship behaviours.

Free Anti-Discrimination workshops for secondary schools



Through interactive workshops and by drawing on the unique knowledge of many partners in the Hate Crime field, Stand Up! empowers young people to act against all forms of discrimination, racism, antisemitism, and anti-Muslim hate, whilst developing their sense of social responsibility to their local communities and British society.

OUR WORKSHOPS WILL

Emphasise British Values and educate students about the Equality Act (2010) and different protected characteristics in the UK

- Define racism, antisemitism, anti-Muslim hate, and other forms of discrimination
- Introduce the basic tenets of Judaism and Islam
- Discuss and break down stereotypes
- Present verified and reliable hate crime statistics
- Sensitively explore young people’s experiences through case studies and real-life incidents
- Provide young people with skills and tools to responsibly challenge hate crime, empowering them to become Upstanders in society

Workshops are offered **free of charge** and can be delivered in person or virtually in your setting. You can find out more and book directly online at <https://www.standupeducation.org/about-us> or contact Jill and Sally for further information.

iREPORTit App

The iREPORTit app is now live, this allows people to refer worrying or disturbing content to the CTIRU (Counter Terrorism Internet Referral Unit) easily, effectively and, anonymously.

There should be no safe space for terrorists online – the CTIRU (Counter Terrorism Internet Referral Unit) have a team of specially trained officers who can assess each referral and take appropriate action including referring to other related teams if needed. This FREE app can be downloaded here: [Apple App Store](#) [Google Play Store](#).



Extreme Measures: How to Help Young People Counter Extremist Recruitment. A Toolkit for Educators, Parents and Families



ADL have produced a new toolkit for educators, parents and families that provides strategies to help young people understand and resist recruitment and radicalization by white supremacist extremists. It includes information on adolescent risk and vulnerability, what recruitment and radicalization looks like, warning signs, effective approaches for talking with tweens and teens, how to respond to online hate and more. This is an American company however the toolkit has some information that you may find useful In your settings

The purpose of this toolkit is to help educators, parents and families support young people in understanding and resisting extremist recruitment efforts. You can access the toolkit via the website link here: [Extreme Measures: How to Help Young People Counter Extremist Recruitment \(adl.org\)](#)

News Stories

You may find the following News stories of interest.

Terror threat teen wanted to attack mosque and kill 10,000

[Terror threat teen wanted to attack mosque and kill 10,000 - BBC News](#)

British teacher who funded terrorists banned from classroom

[British teacher who funded terrorists banned from classroom \(thenationalnews.com\)](#)

Younger, whiter, and more British: The changing face of terrorism in the UK since 9/11

[The changing face of terrorism in the UK since 9/11 | The Independent](#)

Prevent Referral Data.

The latest figures for national Prevent referrals has now been released. This release contains statistics on the number of individuals referred to and supported through the Prevent Programme in England and Wales from April 2020 to March 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/individuals-referred-to-and-supported-through-the-prevent-programme-april-2020-to-march-2021>

Resilience in Unity Project

Resilience in Unity Project <https://www.resilienceinunity.com/> was developed by Travis Frain who was injured in the Westminster Bridge terrorist attack. The Project is fully supported by National Counter Terrorism Police HQ. The project aims to educate wider society on the risks from terrorism, how to recognise the potential warning signs and provide a resource for those aiming to counter the spread of hate and division in our communities. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MBihAJgTy80>

Making a Referral

The National Prevent Referral form is to be used for all referrals. You can find the form [here](#)

- 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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Prevent Referrals. preventreferrals@kent.police.uk