Extremism and Radicalisation - Advice for Parents and Carers

Radicalisation is the process by which people come to support terrorism and extremism, and in some, cases participate in terrorist groups.

Extremism is the vocal or active opposition to the fundamental British (Democracy, Rule of Law, Respect and Tolerance, Individual Liberty)

Children and young people may be at risk from exposure to materials or influences that support or endorse terrorism and extremism.

Local authorities and other public bodies, including schools, have a legal duty to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and to provide support via the Channel programme to people who are at risk of being drawn into terrorism.

The risks posed to children and young people by extremism are now included within the criteria for determining whether children and young people are in need of early help, specialist support or protection.

If you are concerned about a child or young person at risk from radicalisation or extremism as referral should be made to the Sheffield Safeguarding Hub on 0114 273 4855

What are the warning signs?

There is no single way of identifying someone who is likely to be vulnerable to radicalisation but factors could include:

- isolating themselves from family and friends
- talking as if from a scripted speech
- unwillingness or inability to discuss their views
- a sudden disrespectful attitude towards others
- increased levels of anger
- increased secretiveness, especially around internet use.
- children who are at risk of radicalisation may have low self-esteem, or be victims of bullying
 or discrimination. Extremists might target them and tell them they can be part of something
 special, encouraging them to cut themselves off from their friends and family.

Further information can also be found on the Educate Against Hate website which is accessible on the following link: Educate Against Hate - Parent Information