

Walsall Prevent Digest

Current Threat Level in the UK: SUBSTANTIAL – An Attack is Likely

Introduction – Niall Markham, Prevent Coordinator

Firstly, can I take this opportunity to thank you for the feedback we have received since the launch of our first Prevent Digest last month, honestly we couldn't be more pleased with the response. The trick now of course is to keep future editions informative, relevant and more importantly, useful!

Also, a very big thank you to Georgia Cox from our Print & Design Services Team. Georgia was responsible for designing this new Prevent Digest and I feel sure you will agree with us by saying that she has done a terrific job.

We are aware many of you will be breaking up very shortly for a well-deserved summer holiday and although it will clearly have a very different feel this year, both Dave and I really hope you can make the best of what is an unusual situation and still have a wonderful summer.

Without wishing to do a Michael Fish, I'm forecasting a scorcher! (This may need some explaining to our younger colleagues).

Message from Dave Chadwick, Prevent Education Officer

I wanted to take a moment to talk about some training I recently enrolled on during this period of lockdown. As someone who is always looking at innovation plus the opportunity to take on new challenges I recently signed on to a course through TCP therapy, a company that I have been following on social media for some time. It was a brilliant course and I can highly recommend it to school teachers and support staff.

The online course took me through the following modules:-

- Childhood trauma and the brain.
- Attachment disorder in relation to the classroom.
- Therapeutic teaching skills.
- Creating an emotionally intelligent class.
- Boundaries and consistency.
- Therapeutic teaching.
- Creating a therapeutic environment.

For more information, please visit
<https://mailchi.mp/da971284d5bb/therapeuticteachingcourse>



Extremism & Radicalization Policies

From time to time we still receive queries around the updating of Extremism & Radicalisation Policies in schools. I know we have mentioned this previously, but just to remind everyone, there is no longer any requirement whatsoever to prepare or maintain a standalone policy given the necessary information is already contained in existing School Safeguarding Policy. This guidance was provided by Ofsted some time ago. However, should you wish to continue with a separate policy you will not be criticised. We hope this helps!

Message from Dave Chadwick - WRAP Training in Schools

Recently I made my first trip back into Walsall since lockdown and thoroughly enjoyed being back in a school again. It was clear to see that there has been a vast amount of work going on during the last few months and you have clearly been working very hard to ensure a smooth transition back in to schools for our young people.



Just as a quick reminder - as I have begun to receive requests for WRAP training post September - If you are unsure when you last received training and are keen to ensure you are within the 18 month/2 year advised refresher period, please get in touch as we keep a record of previous WRAP training dating back to 2015.

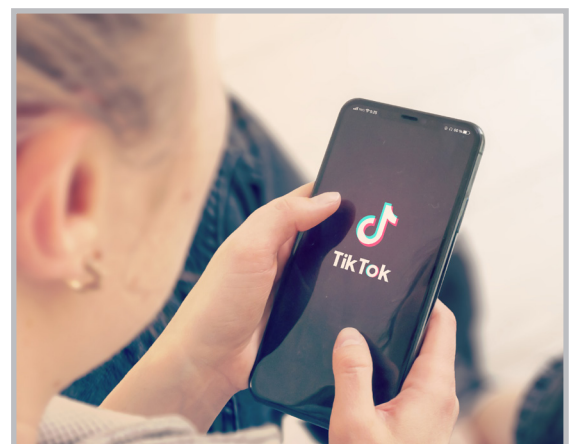
Message from Niall Markham - National Prevent Referral Form

This Autumn will see the launch of a new National Prevent Referral Form across Walsall Local Authority and wider partnership. However I must stress, in terms of referrals into MASH the new form will **NOT** replace the existing Multi-Agency Referral Form (MARF). I will provide more information nearer the time, however the new Prevent Referral Form is structured in such a way that it prompts the referrer to consider what information is required to allow for the most effective assessment of threat, risk AND vulnerability when considering a Prevent related referral.

Easy to Digest: Hate on TikTok

Please see this week's Easy to Digest. Note that the views expressed in this content are not those of the areas team or government but that of the creator.

This report examines the dark side of Tiktok, a popular teenage platform with 1.5 billion active users. It explores that while the growing presence of extremist groups on social media platforms has become more and more prominent most academic attention is focused on leading platforms like Twitter, Facebook or Instagram. This means the extremist migration to other platforms like TikTok has gone virtually unnoticed.



TikTok is the fastest-growing application today, mostly children and teenagers. The fresh, innovative and fast-moving content has hooked young audiences around the world, resulting in over 2 billion downloads globally since its launch in 2017. The report aims to rectify this error, investigating the platforms more sinister side.

TikTok has been the subject of troubling reports about its content, which is reportedly filled with nude images of children, child predators, devious algorithms, lack of privacy, and teens bullying and harassing one another. Moreover, the seemingly innocent video-sharing platform allows for a steady stream of drugs, predatory messages and animal cruelty. Its lax security and control have allowed it to become a magnet for paedophiles, profanity, crime, violence and extremism.



For Information, Support or Guidance around Prevent, or should you have any queries, concerns or are looking to make a referral, please do not hesitate to contact us...

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