

Project Orpheus and Prevent Update - January 2020

This email is for Project Orpheus Observer Partners, head teachers, senior leaders, DSLs, curriculum leads and professionals. If you wish individuals to be added to this distribution list please email john.webster@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

This bulletin reflects the on-going work of Project Orpheus alongside any local or national Prevent updates.

1. Project Orpheus - Summary of findings with focus groups

During the past few months we have delivered 11 focus groups and worked with over 200 young people and professionals to find out their views on:

- Skills needed to process the vast amounts of information we consume
- Debating sensitive issues
- Formal and informal space spaces

Online

- They are aware of how information can be created and presented as authentic e.g. fake news
- Pupils are less confident on the process and motivation behind how news is created and why they receive certain posts e.g. filter bubbles and echo chambers
- They are concerned with the constant pressure to have the 'perfect lifestyle' and this for some, meant that they were growing up far too quickly.
- They fear being judged by their peers as this can lead to hateful comments and bullying that they can receive from the things they post or like.

Offline

- Most young people do not have adequate opportunities to talk about sensitive issues, unless there has been a major incident either nationally or internationally.
- Pupil wants to be able to talk about current and relevant social and community issues - at the moment they had just heard 'the headlines' or the story from someone else
- Pupils want these sessions to be facilitated by an adult to allow for everyone to be able share with fear of judgement

2. Orpheus work with St Edmund's secondary school

The 'Orpheus Project.'

This half term, a group of Year 9 pupils were selected to give their opinions on keeping safe in Portsmouth with the Hidden Harms Education Officer, John Webster, from Portsmouth City Council.



We discussed our Year 9 Citizenship curriculum and the resource we use

'Extreme Dialogues' which John had also worked with. This is a fantastic resource which is intended for use in schools and communities to build resilience to extremism and enhance critical thinking. Our young people also answered key questions which are part of some research which the City is involved with. The project 'Orpheus' has the aim of finding out what young people know about safe spaces e.g. how/when/why young people gather together either formally or informally. The questions that were used are also used across our European partners for consistency. Watch this space for an update!

We are always looking for practitioners and young people to work with, so if you think any of the Orpheus content may be useful for you, then please contact us. We already have several established links alongside some local providers who we will commission to deliver some of this work.

3. Terrorist Incident report checklist

Following the 2017 Manchester Arena attack, the DDCED (Due Diligence Counter Extremism Division) has worked closely with institutions directly affected and the wider sector to understand how the DfE can better support establishments prepare for and respond to a terrorist incident that affects staff, students or infrastructure. This consultation highlighted the need to ensure institutions have in place effective relationships with local partners to quickly and effectively respond to an incident; knowing who to speak to and where to get the support they need.

A checklist of considerations for leaders to refer to in the immediate aftermath of a terrorist incident is included in the Schools and Colleges Security Guidance published in November 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-and-college-security/school-and-college-security>

This set of guidance and has links with many other areas of safety and risk. **It is not a Prevent policy, more Protect.**

4. Reporting around protest groups

You may have seen articles in the media concerning a document produced by South East Counter-Terrorism Policing that included protest groups alongside extremist groups. The document has subsequently been withdrawn. **Extinction Rebellion is not an extremist group and association, affiliation or support of it, is not a Prevent concern.** The Security Minister, Brandon Lewis said this in the House of Commons on 22.01.20

"The Prevent programme is about safeguarding and protecting individuals to protect them from becoming terrorists. Prevent is there to protect people from radicalisation and involvement in terrorist groups, such as proscribed organisations like National Action and Al-Muhajiroun, who deliberately incite violence and hatred. Prevent is certainly not concerned

with protesters who want to bring about change through peaceful protest. Even non-violent civil disobedience, which may constitute criminal behaviour, is of no interest to Prevent."

5. PSHE resources for primary schools (attached)

[Understanding PSHE Education's role in preventing & challenging extremism 2019](#): This paper does not seek to address how schools should implement the Prevent Duty, it is more a focus on ways to support the prevention of violent extremism through PSHE education.

[Lesson Pack: Inclusion, Belonging & Addressing Extremism2019](#): Teacher guidance, lessons and resources for KS1 & KS2

6. Report online material promoting terrorism or extremism

Report illegal or harmful information, pictures or videos you've found on the internet. You can make your report anonymously.

<https://www.gov.uk/report-terrorism>

7. Safer Internet Day 2020: managing online identity (11 February)

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/SID2020>

8. Prevent Concerns

Both Charlie and myself are still available to deal with Prevent concerns and offer support, advice and training as per our previous roles. However as a way of a reminder, **all Prevent referrals must be made via the MASH**, please see Portsmouth City Council's One Minute Guidance on Prevent/Channel

<https://www.portsmouthscp.org.uk/one-minute-guides/>

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