

The Education Act 2002 puts a duty on schools to exercise their functions with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. All schools are required by law to teach a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes the spiritual, moral and cultural development of pupils and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life. Schools are required to promote community cohesion, a duty first introduced through the Education and Inspection Act 2006.

There are also safeguards against biased or unbalanced teaching and the promotion of partisan political views in publically funded schools. These require that all reasonably practicable steps are taken to ensure that, where political or controversial issues are brought to pupils' attention, they are offered a balanced presentation of opposing views.

Protecting children from harm and promoting their welfare depends on a shared responsibility and effective joint working between different agencies. On the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015 it became statute that all schools had a responsibility to protect children from radicalisation and extremism.

Schools can help to protect children from extremist and violent views in the same ways that they help to safeguard children from drugs, gang violence or alcohol. The purpose must be to protect children from harm and to ensure that they are taught in a way that is consistent with the law and our values. Staff can help to identify, and to refer to the relevant agencies, children whose behaviour suggests that they are being drawn into terrorism or extremism.