

Catholic Primary
Birmingham after a
teachers to the
hat the brass cyl-
bullet" for a rifle.
ld teachers that
rother, who has
army cadet
eld a rifle.

mother, who
r's requests to
boy, accused the
al profiling" and
I have reacted
d my son been a

which has apol-
mily but insists
pil's ethnicity
in its response,
ty to report the
case illustrates
cing schools to
on sense with
duty to protect
risk of radical-
emism.

d in March that
ton suggested
aged four to a
programme
picture of a
cucumber with
misheard his
f the fruit as
The case was
e and social
which decided

of the seven-
sked not to be
l the school of
and said she
lice response

ink the school
scalated it if we
Islam," she said.
ost as though we
ve our innocence
ey would need to
y had a reason-

such a situation before and I
wasn't entirely sure of my
rights. It was intimidating."

The school has about 400
pupils, of whom roughly 10%
are Muslim. It was inspected

academic at a university in the
West Midlands, said she had
enrolled her son at a Catholic
school because she wanted
him to learn about other
religions. She is angry that St

agency before
parents/carers beca
siders that contact
may increase the risk
icant harm to the ch

The mother w
contacted by the sch
the incident. "I don
sue the police or the
I do want my issue hi
for them and other
know that they just
that. They can't c
Muslim children in a
way from anybody
they can't bypass th

"We send our child
as a matter of trust, s
can't bypass our inv
and just say we'll r
child to the police
discussing it with yo

Joanne Kennett,
teacher at St Edwar
"We have apologis
child's mother for ar
that this had caus
family. We also expl
because the child I
tioned that there w
we had a duty to refe
dent to our local
safeguarding hub ar

"As a Catholic sch
children are treat
and we pride oursel
diversity of our pu
and community. T
been disclosures r
similar nature from
who were not from
families and the sa
of action has been ta

West Midlands po
firmed that officers
the family's home a
school reported a p
brought a bullet into
... The item was exami
found not to be a bulle
further action was ta

@rich

Imams accused

One of the few people in
Britain living under a fatwa
is to publish a book in which
he accuses imams of
misrepresenting the Koran,
writes Gillian Bowditch.

Paigham Mustafa sought
police protection in 2001
after a fatwa was issued by
15 imams who accused him
of spreading "satanic
thoughts" in magazines
that he produced for fellow
Muslims.

The threat to his life
forced him to miss his
father's funeral and the
fatwa has never been lifted.

Despite that, he has now
written *The Quran: God's
Message to Mankind*, in
which he argues that the
peaceful and inclusive
message of the original text
has been hijacked over the
centuries by religious
leaders for their own ends.

He claims that modern
"falsehoods" about Islam
include the condoning of
violence against non-
Muslims, domestic violence,
polygamy, the requirement
for women to cover their
faces and justification for
so-called honour killings.



Mustafa: 'life at extra risk'

Mustafa, 58, whose book
is available online from his
own imprint Xeitre-Signat,
accepts that he may be
putting his life at extra risk.

The father of three, who
lives in Scotland, said: "I'm
doing this because I believe
in the word of the Koran,
and it troubles me that it's
being used falsely to justify,
not only terrorism and
violence, but a whole range
of practices that are
harmful and unnecessary.

"Governments in the UK
and other western countries
are seeking to engage with
so-called 'moderate' Muslim
leaders to tackle extremism
but, in many cases, they are
part of the problem."