



Preventing Radicalisation Guidance

POLICY / DOCUMENT PURPOSE STATEMENT

This document details the College's responsibilities and procedures to actively identify, assess and respond to concerns regarding the safety and wellbeing of any individual attending the College who may be vulnerable to radicalisation, extremism or terrorism. The guidance supports the College's safeguarding responsibilities and Prevent Duty obligations.

APPLICATION

This policy applies to all staff, students, governors, volunteers, contractors, visitors and partner organisations engaged in College activities

INTERPRETATION

Further guidance on the use or interpretation of this policy may be obtained from the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or HR Team.

LINKS WITH OTHER POLICIES / DOCUMENTS

The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015
Statutory Guidance on the Prevent Duty 2019
Safeguarding Policy
Prevent Risk Assessment
Email Internet and WIFI Policy
JANET Acceptable Use Policy
Freedom of Expression Policy
Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Policy
External Speakers Policy
Disciplinary Policy
The Equality Act 2010
Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006

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Owner / Area	Designated Safeguarding Leads
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What is the Prevent duty?

The Prevent Duty is established through the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 and requires specified authorities, including further education providers, to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. Prevent operates as part of wider safeguarding arrangements and focuses on early identification, support and intervention for individuals who may be vulnerable to radicalisation.

PREVENTING RADICALISATION GUIDANCE

1. Purpose

1.1 This guidance supports staff, students, governors, volunteers and visitors to identify, prevent and respond appropriately to concerns relating to radicalisation and extremism in accordance with the Prevent Duty and the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

1.2 This guidance adopts the UK Government's 2024 definition of extremism as:

"The promotion or advancement of an ideology based on violence, hatred or intolerance, that aims to:

- Negate or destroy the fundamental rights and freedoms of others; or
- Undermine, overturn or replace the UK's system of liberal parliamentary democracy and democratic rights; or
- Intentionally create a permissive environment for others to achieve either of the above."

1.3 This guidance applies to all College activities, whether delivered on-site, off-site, online, blended or through partnership arrangements.

1.4 The College actively promotes fundamental British values through its curriculum, enrichment activities and College culture, including:

Democracy

The rule of law

Individual liberty

Mutual respect

Tolerance of different faiths, beliefs and cultures

The College is committed to creating a safe, inclusive environment where diverse views can be expressed respectfully and challenged appropriately.

1.5 This guidance is not intended to restrict legitimate debate, discussion or freedom of expression. The College encourages critical thinking and informed discussion of controversial issues whilst ensuring that extremist views which may encourage hatred, intolerance or violence are appropriately challenged.

1.6 The College recognises that radicalisation increasingly occurs through online platforms, social media, messaging applications, video-sharing websites, gaming environments and other digital channels. The College will promote digital resilience, online safety awareness and critical thinking skills to reduce vulnerability to harmful online influence.

1.7 The College recognises that radicalisation can arise from a range of ideological influences, including but not limited to:

Islamist extremism
Extreme right-wing extremism
Mixed, unstable or unclear ideologies
Conspiracy-driven extremism
Online extremist narratives

Concerns will be assessed based on vulnerability, behaviours and risk indicators rather than a person's faith, ethnicity, nationality, disability, political opinion or other protected characteristic.

1.8 The College will undertake an annual Prevent risk assessment to identify and evaluate risks relating to radicalisation, extremism and terrorism within the College community, local area, learning environments and online activities. Appropriate action plans will be implemented to mitigate identified risks.

2. Potential Indicators of Radicalisation

2.1 The College recognises that any individual may become vulnerable to radicalisation. Vulnerability may be influenced by a range of factors including social isolation, personal difficulties, mental health concerns, significant life changes, discrimination, online influence or exploitation by others.

2.2 Individuals may be exposed to extremist influences through a variety of sources including:

Social media platforms
Online forums and chat rooms
Video-sharing websites
Gaming platforms
Peer groups
Family members
Community groups
Printed or digital publications

2.3 Staff, students, volunteers and visitors should remain alert to possible indicators of radicalisation, including:

- Disclosure of exposure to extremist materials, activities or individuals.
- Accessing, creating or sharing extremist content online.
- Display of extremist symbols, literature or propaganda.
- Expressions of support for extremist groups or terrorist organisations.
- Intolerance towards people with different beliefs, identities or backgrounds.
- Use of discriminatory, hateful or extremist language.
- Attempts to encourage others to adopt extremist views.

- Fixation on perceived grievances or injustices.
- Justification of violence to achieve political, ideological or religious goals.
- Significant changes in behaviour, appearance or peer groups.
- Increased secrecy regarding online activity.
- Withdrawal from social interaction or established friendship groups.
- Repeated sharing of conspiracy theories linked to extremist narratives.
- Threatening behaviour towards individuals or groups.

2.4 The presence of one or more indicators does not necessarily mean an individual is being radicalised. Concerns should be considered alongside the wider context and discussed with safeguarding staff

2.5 Everyone should remain vigilant to any attempts to radicalise others. Concerns may involve students, staff, visitors, contractors, partner organisations or external speakers.

3. Procedure to Follow if You Suspect Radicalisation

3.1 Prevent is a safeguarding responsibility. All concerns relating to radicalisation, extremism or vulnerability to terrorism must be managed in accordance with the College Safeguarding Policy.

3.2 If you have any suspicions or concerns about anyone you should report this confidentially to a manager or course tutor, who will then take further advice from our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or Safeguarding officer (SO).

3.3 Any member of staff, volunteer, student or visitor who has concerns regarding an individual should report their concerns immediately to:

- The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
- The Duty Manager, Evening or Overnight Supervisor
- A member of the Wider Safeguarding Team
- Their line manager or course tutor (who must refer concerns immediately to safeguarding staff)

3.4 The DSL will assess concerns and determine the most appropriate course of action, which may include:

- Early support and monitoring
- Internal safeguarding intervention
- Referral to external safeguarding agencies
- Seeking advice from Prevent partners
- Referral to Channel where appropriate

3.5 Where appropriate, Prevent concerns may be referred to the Channel Programme.

Channel is a voluntary, multi-agency safeguarding process designed to provide support to individuals who may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. The programme focuses on early intervention, support and risk reduction.

3.6 The College may also liaise with other external agencies such as:

Local Authority safeguarding partners
Regional FE Prevent Coordinators
The Police
Counter Terrorism Policing
Social Care Services
Channel Panels
Other relevant safeguarding agencies

3.7 All Prevent concerns, referrals, actions and outcomes will be recorded securely in accordance with safeguarding procedures, data protection legislation and information-sharing protocols.

Access to records will be restricted to authorised safeguarding personnel and retained in accordance with the College's records management procedures.

4. Prevent Leadership and Governance

4.1 The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) holds operational responsibility for Prevent activity, referrals and compliance across the College.

4.2 Senior leaders are responsible for:

Ensuring compliance with the Prevent Duty
Reviewing Prevent risks and emerging threats
Ensuring appropriate resources, support and training are available
Monitoring safeguarding and Prevent effectiveness

4.3 The Board of Governors maintains strategic oversight of Prevent arrangements through regular reporting on:

Prevent risk assessments
Staff training compliance
Prevent-related incidents and referrals
Emerging local and national risks
Policy implementation and effectiveness

5. External Speakers and Events

5.1 The College is committed to freedom of speech within the law and encourages open discussion and debate.

5.2 Appropriate due diligence will be undertaken in relation to external speakers, events and external organisations to ensure that College facilities are not used to promote extremist views, hatred, intolerance or unlawful activity.

5.3 Concerns regarding speakers or events should be referred to the DSL and managed in accordance with the External Speakers Policy.

6. Support for Staff, Students and Volunteers

6.1 The College will support implementation of this guidance through:

Mandatory Prevent awareness training for all staff.
Enhanced Prevent training for safeguarding personnel.
Regular safeguarding and Prevent updates.
Governor Prevent awareness briefings.
Student awareness activities and enrichment programmes.
Promotion of online safety and digital resilience.
Access to safeguarding support and guidance.

6.2 The college is committed to consistent Prevent awareness. The College will provide opportunities for students to develop critical thinking skills, awareness of misinformation and disinformation, understanding of democratic values and active citizenship, awareness of online risks, knowledge of how to report concerns, confidence to challenge prejudice, discrimination and intolerance safely.

6.3 Additional information and training can be accessed through official Prevent and safeguarding resources, including the Home Office Prevent e-learning platform.

7. Monitoring and Review

7.1 The effectiveness of this guidance will be monitored through:

Annual Prevent risk assessment reviews.
Staff training compliance monitoring.
Safeguarding and Prevent referral trends.
Student and staff feedback.
Duty Manager process reviews
Governor scrutiny and challenge.

7.2 This guidance will be reviewed every three years, or sooner where there are changes to legislation, statutory guidance, local risk profiles or College requirements.

7.3 Any significant incidents, learning identified through referrals, audit findings or regulatory changes may trigger an earlier review.