

Prevent Policy

Written July 2019

Approved by Trustees in October 2019

1. Aim

The aim of this policy is to outline our approach to supporting the national 'Prevent' Agenda linked to the safeguarding of our learners and staff. This policy is written with reference to the Prevent Duty contained within Section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015. The Duty states that specified authorities, including schools, in the exercise of their functions must have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism".

2. Objectives

- 2.1 To develop and reinforce awareness of 'Prevent' in the School.
- 2.2 To recognize current practice that contributes to the 'Prevent' agenda.
- 2.3 To outline the process of risk assessment in the School in order to identify areas for improvement in meeting the Prevent Duty.
- 2.4 To clearly identify the processes involved in making a Prevent Agenda referral.

3. Awareness of the Prevent Agenda

- 3.1 Prevent is 1 of the 4 elements of 'CONTEST', the government's counter-terrorism strategy. The 4 elements are: Pursue, Protect, Prepare and Prevent. It aims to stop people becoming involved in violent extremism.
- 3.2 The Prevent strategy responds to the ideological challenge of terrorism and aspects of extremism, and the threat we face from those who promote these views.
- 3.3 It provides practical help to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support.
- 3.4 It works with a wide range of sectors (including education, criminal justice, faith, charities, online and health) where there are risks of radicalisation.
- 3.5 The Prevent Duty incorporates the responsibility to promote Fundamental British Values through our practices and the formal and informal curriculum. These values are defined as; democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.
- 3.6 The Prevent Duty covers all forms of radicalisation, including risk from extremist faith groups, far right extremism and some aspects of non-violent extremism.
Source: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>.

4. Current School practice which contributes to Prevent

- 4.1 The School refers to the Prevent agenda to ensure it is within the protective work we do to safeguard our students, visitors and members of staff.
- 4.2 The school ensures its staff is aware of the Prevent Agenda issues.
- 4.3 Our work promoting Tolerance, Equality and Diversity within the School incorporates British Values and hence contributes to good community relations and reduces the risk of radicalisation. (See Policy on Equal opportunities and Anti Discrimination)

5. Prevent Risk Assessment

- 5.1 Our Prevent policy will be reviewed periodically along with the associated Action Plan.
- 5.2 Due to our small size and close contact between staff and students, any radicalisation will be quickly identified and properly dealt with.
- 5.3 Any serious incident will be reported to the Authorities.
- 5.4 Activities and events which may pose a risk of radicalisation, including the presence of visiting speakers and the letting of school premises to outside groups, will be risk assessed.

6. Prevent Referrals

- 6.1 A Prevent referral is a supportive activity which initially involves identification of any student or member of staff at risk of radicalisation.
- 6.2 A referral should be made via a member of the Staff.
- 6.3 Appendix 2 shows the referral flow chart.

Appendix 1 - Glossary of terms from the Prevent Duty Guidance

'Having due regard' means that the authorities should place an appropriate amount of weight on the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism when they consider all the other factors relevant to how they carry out their usual functions.

'Extremism' is defined in the 2011 Prevent strategy as vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas.

'Interventions' are projects intended to divert people who are being drawn into terrorist activity. Interventions can include mentoring, counselling, theological support, encouraging civic engagement, developing support networks (family and peer structures) or providing mainstream services (education, employment, health, finance or housing).

'Non-violent extremism' is extremism, as defined above, which is not accompanied by violence.

'Prevention' in the context of this document means reducing or eliminating the risk of individuals becoming involved in terrorism. Prevent includes but is not confined to the identification and referral of those at risk of being drawn into terrorism into appropriate interventions. These interventions aim to divert vulnerable people from radicalisation.

'Radicalisation' refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

'Safeguarding' is the process of protecting vulnerable people, whether from crime, other forms of abuse or (in the context of this document) from being drawn into terrorist-related activity.

The current UK definition of 'terrorism' is given in the Terrorism Act 2000 (TACT 2000). In summary this defines terrorism as an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people; causes serious damage to property; or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause.

'Terrorist-related offences' are those (such as murder) which are not offences in terrorist legislation, but which are judged to be committed in relation to terrorism.

'Vulnerability' describes the condition of being capable of being injured; difficult to defend; open to moral or ideological attack. Within Prevent, the word describes factors and characteristics associated with being susceptible to radicalisation.

Appendix 2 – Prevent Referrals

