

Prevent Strategy

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Author: Cath Sullivan

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Government's Prevent Agenda is 1 of the 4 elements of CONTEST, the government's counter-terrorism strategy. It aims to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

The Government's Prevent strategy:

- responds to the ideological challenge we face from terrorism and aspects of extremism, and the threat we face from those who promote these views
- provides practical help to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support
- works with a wide range of sectors (including education, criminal justice, faith, charities, online and health) where there are risks of radicalisation that we need to deal with.

- 1.2 The strategy covers all forms of terrorism, including far right extremism and some aspects of non-violent extremism.

- 1.3 The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty on specified authorities including schools, colleges and universities to 'have due regard, in the exercise of its functions, to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism'. This 'due regard' will be measured by Ofsted.

- 1.4 The College has developed a culture of safety and respect for its students, staff, governors and visitors. As part of this ethos the College has considered the Prevent Duty and the importance of collaborative working between college staff, local authorities, police, other educational institutions, policy makers and health providers to identify, detect and safeguard vulnerable people throughout the organisation.

2. Prevent Duty

The Prevent Duty requires the College to:

- 2.1.1 Work in partnership with others (staff, governors, the local authority, the local safeguarding board, the police, health professionals, Prevent professionals etc.) to ensure student safety.
- 2.1.2 Risk assess all events and activities, off and on site, and to be aware of any where the possibility to have contact with or become involved in terrorism exists.
- 2.1.3 Provide sufficient pastoral care and welfare support for all students and use of a faith facility

2.1.4 Have effective IT security (including the use of Wifi) and a responsible user policy in place.

3 Prevent Duty Objectives

3.1 This strategy has five key objectives:

- To promote and reinforce shared values; to create space for free and open debate; and to listen and support the learner voice.
- To break down segregation among different student communities including by supporting inter-faith and inter-cultural dialogue and understanding, and to engage all students in playing a full and active role in wider engagement in society
- To ensure student safety and that the College is free from bullying, harassment and discrimination
- To provide support for students who may be at risk and appropriate sources of advice and guidance
- To ensure that students and staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities in preventing violent extremism.

4 British Values

4.1 The Prevent Duty states the British Values that are expected to be embedded into the curriculum offer and into the ethos of the College, they are:-

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

4.2 The College's Principalship Team will lead on the embedding of British Values, together with the governing body. The Principalship Team will establish guidelines and actions to be taken through the College's operation to ensure that British Values are understood by all and are integral to the College's culture reflecting the College's Values. The Chair and the Director of Governance will lead on ensuring they are integral to Governance.

5 Safeguarding Ethos

- 5.1 The College is passionate about safeguarding its learners and staff and aims to protect children and adults at risk from all types of abuse and harm. The College's ethos is to ensure the welfare and safety of staff, students, Governors and visitors to the College.
- 5.2 Hugh Baird College has a statutory and moral duty to ensure that the College functions with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults at risk whilst receiving education and training at the College.
- 5.3 The Prevent Strategy sits within the area of Safeguarding policies and procedures at the College. The College has developed relationships with external agencies to ensure that it is well informed about the Prevent agenda on both a local and national level.

6. The College Community

- 6.1 Our students will receive regular training and information in order to inform them of, and raise their awareness of, the Prevent agenda as part of their safeguarding training. This will be undertaken by the Regional Prevent Coordinator. This will be supported by a bespoke tutorial delivered across Curriculum Areas by the Study Programme Coordinators.
- 6.2 Information of the Prevent Agenda and Duty will be promoted to students by inclusion in:-
- Curriculum offer, lesson planning and schemes of work
 - Safeguarding posters
 - Safeguarding policy and procedures
 - On line induction information
 - Training and development sessions
- 6.3 Staff will receive awareness training and guidance on how to deal with:-
- Inappropriate material and behaviours
 - Disclosures by learners about their exposure to extremist actions, views or materials
 - Accessing extremist material on line
 - Parental or peer concerns
 - Intolerance of difference
 - Anti-Western or Anti-British views
 - The impact on the student and the FE Institution
- 6.4 The College will ensure that all staff are familiar with the Prevent agenda, be able to promote British Values, understand how they can recognise practice and behaviours in students and colleagues and are aware of the course of action to take if they are concerned.

- 6.5 College Governors receive updates on safeguarding matters which include the Prevent agenda. Governors take a proactive role in the Prevent Strategy and receive training and regular reports from the Designated Senior Safeguarding Person.
- 6.6 The College continues to develop links with external partners in order to remain aware of developments within the safeguarding and child protection arena. Links with local police, Local Children's Safeguarding Boards and external agencies are in place. Specific links are also in place for Prevent which include the Regional Prevent Coordinator and the Channel Link Coordinator.

7. Referral Procedure

- 7.1 All students and staff should be aware of signs of radicalisation and have the confidence to report their concerns to the Safeguarding Team, using the "Push the Button" on MyDay.
- 7.2 The College Safeguarding Lead will decide what action is necessary which will include a discussion with the Prevent Officer within Merseyside Police. This discussion may be for advice purposes or for a referral.

8 Channel Procedure

- 8.1 Merseyside Police have a CHANNEL procedure in place. The Police CHANNEL procedure is a partnership focused structure and is similar to existing, successful initiatives which aim to support individuals and to protect them from harm, such as involvement in drug, knife or gun crime.
- 8.2 CHANNEL is about supporting those most at risk of being drawn into violent extremism and is about diverting them away from potential threat at an early stage.
- 8.3 Partnership involvement ensures that vulnerable individuals have access to a wide variety of support from diversionary activities through to providing specific services such as education, housing and employment. Each multi-agency panel varies according to local circumstance but partners (who are all signed up to an Information Sharing Pool) can include:
- Statutory partners such as education, NHS, probation, housing and the police service
 - Social Care
 - Children's services
 - Youth offending Services
 - Credible and reliable members of the community
- 8.4 The College will engage in the CHANNEL process as necessary and will make appropriate referrals to Channel should it have any concerns about an individual at risk of being drawn into extremism.

9 Managing Risk

- 9.1 To ensure that the College manages the risks in this area a Prevent Duty Action Plan has been developed to allow the College to monitor and manage risks on an ongoing basis and deal appropriately with issues which arise.
- 9.2 This Prevent Duty Action Plan is intended to achieve the following outcomes:
- Staff and students understand the nature of risk from violent extremism and how this might impact directly or indirectly on the college
 - The potential risks within the College and externally are understood and, if relevant, managed
 - The College is able to respond appropriately to local, national and international events that may impact on students and their communities
 - Measures are in place to minimise the potential for acts of violent extremism within the College
 - Plans are in place to respond appropriately to a threat or incident within the college
 - Effective IT security and responsible use of IT is in place
- 9.3 The Prevent Duty Action Plan will be monitored on a monthly basis by the College's Safeguarding Group and annually by the full Governing Body.

Hugh Baird College

Balliol Road
Bootle
Liverpool
L20 7EW

Telephone

0151 353 4444

Email

enquiries@hughbaird.ac.uk

www.hughbaird.ac.uk