

PREVENT POLICY

1.0 Introduction and Context

Prevent is a strand of the Government's counter terrorism strategy. The UK faces a range of terrorist threats. Threats are not limited to the threat from religious extremists and we therefore need to be mindful of all potential threats to which our learners are exposed. All terrorist groups who pose a threat to us seek to recruit and radicalise individuals to their cause. Nationally Prevent seeks to:

- Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and aspects of extremism, and the threat we face from those who promote those views.
- Provide practical help and support to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support.
- Work with a wide range of sectors where there are risks of radicalisation which need to be addressed, including the education sectors, criminal justice, faith groups, the internet and health service.

The UK has a system of threat levels which represents the likelihood of an attack in the near future. The five levels are:

Critical – an attack is expected imminently

Severe – an attack is highly likely

Substantial – an attack is a strong possibility Moderate

– an attack is possible but not likely

Low – an attack is unlikely.

The current threat level within the UK is determined as Severe.

The Government's Counter Terrorism and Security Act places certain duties on further and higher education institutions in relation to the prevention of radicalisation and extremism. This policy seeks to ensure that Right Track meets the expectations of this legislation.

Colleges and private training providers are major education providers for the 16-25 year old age group, who are particularly vulnerable to radicalisation. They have an integral part to play in fostering a set of shared 'British values' and promoting community cohesion. As a training provider, Right Track have a duty to ensure that they are equally aware of the threat posed by radicalisation and also to promote British Values to their staff and learners.

The government's own definition of extremism as contained within the Prevent strategy will be the definition used within this policy and is:

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.

2.0 Aims of the Prevent Policy

This policy has the following aims:

1. To promote and reinforce a set of shared values, founded on tolerance and respect for others.
2. To create a safe space for free and open debate.
3. To promote a sense of community cohesion both within Right Track and within its wider external community.
4. To ensure that learners are safe and that we create an environment that is free from bullying, harassment and discrimination.
5. To support learners who may be at risk from radicalisation and to be able to signpost them to further external sources of support where appropriate.
6. To ensure that staff are aware of their responsibilities under this policy and are able to recognise and respond to vulnerable learners.

This policy should be read in conjunction with Right Track's safeguarding policy and procedures and Right Track's equality and diversity policy.

3.0 Defining British Values

British values are defined by the Government as:

“democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance for those with different backgrounds, characteristics, beliefs and faiths”

This definition is a natural extension of two of Right Track's core values of Respect and Responsibility.

4.0 Managing risks and responding to events

Signs & Indicators of an individual being drawn into extremism

- Using inappropriate language;
- Refusing to listen to different points of view;
- Unwilling to engage with individuals that have different views, faiths or ethnic backgrounds;
- Changing friends and appearance;
- Distancing themselves from old friends and colleagues;
- No longer doing things they used to enjoy;
- Converting to a new religion;
- Being secretive;
- Sympathetic to extremist ideologies and groups.

Embedding values within Right Track

Equality and Diversity, the values of respect and tolerance will be embedded within teaching and learning sessions. This will be supported by additional guidance where necessary on a range of subjects that support values and values based decision making. Training staff will be empowered to encourage open and safe debate.

Coordination and overall responsibilities

The designated safeguarding person for Right Track will have overall responsibility for the coordination of Prevent activity. This is Nick Parr, supported by Latoya Centritto in his absence. He will be supported by the Quality Director and Chief Executive Officer.

Partnership and working with other agencies

Right Track will foster good working relationships with other agencies including the local authority, police and regional Prevent coordinator. Right Track will share information with external agencies as appropriate to safeguard learners.

Risk assessment

Right Track will undertake a prevent risk assessment (attached to this policy at appendix 1) this risk assessment and subsequent action plan will be reviewed on an annual basis by the senior management team who will carry oversight responsibility for prevent activities within Right Track.

Staff training

All members of staff are required to undertake safeguarding training including the prevention of radicalisation and extremism awareness training. Training will enable staff to identify and understand the factors that make people vulnerable to being drawn into extremism and the knowledge of Right Track Social Enterprise processes and procedures to report concerns. This will form a mandatory element of staff training.

The distribution of leaflets and other literature within Right Track

Prior to any literature being distributed from external agencies or by learners when this literature is not related to their programme of study, the permission of Quality Director should be sought.

Speakers and events within Right Track

Right Track welcomes and actively encourages guest speakers and external visitors to enrich the learning and wider learning experience. However, Right Track will refuse entry to those speakers whose values are contrary to Right Track's own and who may be wishing to engage with Right Track as a mechanism to promote extremist views.

All staff are to discuss with their line manager and Designated Safeguarding Lead when they are planning to bring in an external speakers.

Online safety

Right Track provides training, advice and guidance for all tutors and assessors to ensure that they are able to promote safe online learning. These safety guidelines are communicated to learners at the start and throughout their learning journey. Learner progress reviews are carried out with every learner and safe learning is a key focus for discussion. Right Track will continue to promote online safety and educate learners about safe and responsible internet use.

Reporting concerns about vulnerable learners

Concerns specifically related to learners who may be vulnerable to radicalisation should be reported using Right Track's safeguarding procedures.

Making a referral to Channel or other agencies

The designated safeguarding lead will make a decision as to whether concerns should be raised with an external agency.

5.0 Responsibilities

All staff

Are responsible for undertaking training on preventing radicalisation and extremism, for making themselves aware of the procedures contained within this document and for promoting fundamental British values as part of their day to day activity.

Senior Management Team

Have oversight responsibility for the prevent policy and action plan. They will monitor and review prevent procedures on at least an annual basis, though Prevent will be on the agenda of each meeting under the heading of Safeguarding.

Will also have oversight responsibility for the promotion of British values and how these values are embedded as part of Right Track's teaching and learning sessions.

Designated Safeguarding Officer

Has overall strategic responsibility for the implementation of this policy and for reporting concerns to external agencies as appropriate.

Reporting Procedure

