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## 1. AIM

Prevent is a strand of the Government counter terrorism strategy – CONTEST.

The strategy is based on 4 areas of work:

1. Pursue: to stop terrorist attacks
- 2. Prevent: to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism**
3. Protect: to strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack
4. Prepare: to mitigate the impact of terrorist attack

The Prevent strand seeks to:

Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and aspects of extremism, and the threat we face from those who promote these views

- Provide practical help to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support
- Work with a range of other agencies where there are risks of radicalisation which need to be addressed, including education, criminal justice and social care.

Colleges have a legal duty to prevent people being drawn into terrorism (The Prevent Duty). The College follows the Prevent Duty Guidance for further education institutions in England and Wales.

The aim of this policy is to:

- Outline the approach taken by the college to meet the duty to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism
- Set out the college approach to training and development of staff in Prevent
- Outline how students' awareness of Prevent is raised
- Support the development of a co-ordinated action plan and give a framework for monitoring the risks (found in the separate Risk Assessment and Action Plan document)

## 2. KEY OBJECTIVES

This policy has five key objectives:

- To promote and reinforce shared values, particularly British Values; to create space for free and open debate; and to listen to and support the student voice.
- To work to break down segregation among different student communities including supporting inter-faith and inter-cultural dialogue and

understanding, and to engage all students in playing a full and active role with wider engagement in society.

- To ensure student safety and that the college campuses are free from bullying, harassment and discrimination.
- To provide support for students who may be at risk and develop appropriate sources of advice and guidance.
- To ensure that students and staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities in preventing violent extremism and radicalisation as well as non-violent extremism where it can create an atmosphere conducive to terrorism.

Our approach to Prevent sits within the broader scope of Safeguarding within College and this is how it is presented to staff and students. Other policies contribute to the Prevent policy:

- Equality Statement
- Safeguarding Children and Adults
- Student Voice Policy
- Student Conduct Policy
- Student DBS Policy
- Visits Policy & Procedure
- Student Looked After Young People Policy
- Student Substance Misuse Policy
- Resourcing Policy & Procedure
- Organising Events With External Speaker Policy
- Subcontractor Policy
- Student Anti-Bullying Policy
- Online Safety Policy
- Emergency Procedures
- Fitness to Study Policy
- Student Criminal Convictions Policy
- IT Acceptable Use Policy
- Social Media Policy
- Safe Working Practice Guidance
- Staff Disciplinary Policy & Procedure
- Work Experience
- Additional Learning Support Policy

In addition, this policy should be read in conjunction with the guidance issued by the Department for Education - Keeping Children Safe in Education (2024), Working Together to Safeguard Children (2023), Prevent Duty Guidance (2023), Counter Terrorism and Security Act (2015), Prevent and counter-extremism in general further education colleges – a research report (2018) and Work based learners and the Prevent statutory duty (2018)

## 3. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### 3.1 Leadership and Management

To provide an ethos which upholds the aims of the College. This will be achieved through:

- Promoting British Values alongside the core ideals of respect, equality and diversity, democratic society, student voice and participation
- Building staff and student understanding of the issues and confidence to deal with them
- Deepening engagement with local communities
- Actively working with local schools, local authorities, police and other agencies.
- To monitor the national threat level and respond appropriately to any change in threat level
- To monitor the local Counter Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP) and respond appropriately
- To provide regular training and updates to raise awareness of Prevent
- To provide appropriate filtering and monitoring of online systems in college to detect any issues or communications linked to the Prevent duty

### 3.2 Teaching and Learning

To provide a curriculum, including the Tutorial Programme, which promotes knowledge, skills and understanding to build the resilience of students, by undermining extremist ideology and supporting the Student Voice. This will be achieved through:

- Embedding British Values, equality, diversity and inclusion, wellbeing and community cohesion
- Promoting wider skill development such as social and emotional aspects of learning
- A curriculum adapted to recognise local needs/risks, challenge extremist narratives and promote universal rights
- Teaching and learning strategies which explore controversial issues in a way which promotes critical analysis and positive social values
- Use of external programmes or groups to support learning while ensuring that the input supports college goals and values
- Encouraging active citizenship and Student Voice

### 3.3 Student Support

To ensure that staff are confident to take a preventative approach working with partner professionals, families and communities. This will be achieved through;

- Establishing strong and effective student support services
- Listening to what is happening in the College and the community
- Implementing anti-bullying strategies and challenging discriminatory behaviour
- Helping students and staff know how to access support in College or through community partners
- Supporting problem solving and repair of harm
- Supporting at risk students through safeguarding and crime prevention processes (including the Channel process as appropriate)

### 3.4 Subcontractor Relationships

The Subcontractor Policy makes clear the expectations we have in terms of Subcontractors around Prevent and the checks that are in place to provide assurance that good practice is being followed.

- During initial Due Diligence it is ensured that an effective Prevent Policy is in place and that staff are appropriately trained
- This assurance is also sought during the annual Due Diligence process
- It is expected, and monitored, that all students should receive information on Prevent during their Induction (and information on the College Safeguarding staff/ processes should they need to refer to them).
- It is also a focus of quality assurance processes related to Teaching, Learning and Assessment that Prevent and British Values are embedded in curriculum delivery.

If it is found that these expectations are not being met can lead to the processes for unsatisfactory compliance or quality being followed (as per the Subcontractor Policy)

### 3.5 Work Based Learners

It is recognised that safeguarding work based learners is a College responsibility that requires a different approach to students based entirely on a college campus. With this in mind, DFE guidance on safeguarding and the Prevent statutory duty is followed to ensure that work based learners are safeguarded appropriately in this area.

This approach includes, but is not limited to:

- Ensuring an awareness of Prevent for students during the recruitment and enrolment process and following up any concerns identified at this stage
- Appropriate awareness raising and training for staff working in this area
- Ensuring ongoing student awareness of safeguarding issues and the support available

- Working with employers to ensure that they are aware of Prevent and safeguarding responsibilities and support available through the provision of awareness raising material and providing a contact for concerns and queries
- Using the student review process to check understanding of issues relating to safeguarding, including Prevent, to assess student wellbeing and signpost to support if necessary
- Incorporating learning opportunities on Prevent and British Values into the work based curriculum

### **3.6 Multi - Faith Facilities**

College provides a Multi-Faith room at each of our campuses.

A record is kept of students who access the rooms and their frequency of use . Each student who uses the rooms is monitored by college staff in order to oversee their use. This use is then reported to the SPOC on a termly basis. The rooms are checked on for literature and displays to ensure that any information is in line with college values with any concerns being escalated to the SPOC.

### **3.7 Monitoring Risks and Responding to Events**

To ensure that the College monitors risks and is ready to deal appropriately with issues which arise the Prevent SPOC will make sure the following priorities are developed:

- Understanding the nature of the threat from violent extremism and how this may impact directly or indirectly on the College. This includes input on an annual basis from the Shropshire Counter Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP)
- Understanding and managing potential risks within College and from external influences (and developing an associated Prevent risk assessment)
- Responding appropriately to events in local, national or international news that may impact on students and communities
- Ensuring all staff are trained in how to recognise signs of vulnerability to radicalisation, how to act on any concerns they may have, and what happens once they have passed on this concern. All staff receive information on safeguarding and Prevent during their induction and are trained as soon as possible into their employment using the Home Office online awareness course. All staff then access the Home Office Prevent Refresher course on a three yearly cycle to refresh their understanding of the core concepts and processes. Staff also receive regular updates on Prevent related issues via CPD updates and the college In The Loop newsletter
- Ensuring measures are in place to minimise the potential for acts of violent extremism within College.

- Working with the Finance Director to ensure plans are in place to respond appropriately to a threat or incident within College and that these plans are communicated to students (including an effective Lockdown Procedure)
- Maintaining effective ICT security and responsible user policies

College staff should be aware of potential activities and signs of radicalisation and follow the Notice, Check, Share process outlined in Appendix 1.

- The College will also promote the ethos of the 'Prevent' agenda by encouraging free and open debate but challenging extreme views. It will encourage through its classroom practice, theme weeks and induction activities, a belief in equality of opportunity and the celebration of diversity.
- The College will not host or allow its premises to be used by extreme groups and will seek to prevent the distribution of extreme literature. The External Speakers policy covers both activities organised internally for college students and external events organised by clients hiring college facilities.
- The College has a responsibility to prevent the promotion of partisan political views in the teaching of any subject in the college and must take such steps as are reasonably practicable to ensure that where political issues are brought to the attention of students, they are offered a balanced presentation of opposing views. Promotion of any organisations linked to violent extremism is contrary to the values of the college and could constitute misconduct.
- The College will provide appropriate support either through its own staff or by referral to external agencies for any student in danger of radicalisation.

Any concerns should be reported to Steve McAlinden as the Prevent Single Point of Contact

(SPOC) for Shrewsbury Colleges Group or to a Stacey Dickson as Head of Safeguarding & Conduct, as in the College Safeguarding Policy. This may be done directly or via a member of the safeguarding team.

A flowchart is attached at Appendix 2 describing the action taken in college if concerns about an individual are reported.

Where appropriate the SPOC or Head of Safeguarding & Conduct will complete a Prevent Referral Form to submit to West Mercia police on [prevent@warwickshireandwestmercia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:prevent@warwickshireandwestmercia.pnn.police.uk) or call on 0800 789 321

The college action plan and risk assessment will be reviewed by the Senior Leadership Team on an at least an annual basis

## Appendix 1 – The Notice, Check, Share procedure

### 1. Notice

Staff are encouraged to observe for signs such as advocating extremist messages or refusing to listen to different points of view.

### 2. Check

Those working closely with students are well placed to notice changes in behaviour. If you think a young person might be at risk of being radicalised into terrorism, you should share your concerns with a member of the safeguarding team

Ask yourself or a colleague:

- Is there an alternative explanation?
- Has there been a change of circumstances at home?
- Are your colleagues seeing these behaviours?

### 3. Share

In the event of a concern you should follow standard safeguarding procedures and share your concerns with a member of the safeguarding team

It is **NOT** the responsibility of staff to investigate welfare concerns or determine the truth of any disclosure or allegation. All staff, however, have a duty to recognise concerns and pass the information onto the safeguarding team . This is to ensure that a record is maintained and that we share the right information when it is needed and the student received the joined up support they need.



## Appendix 2 - Handling Concerns in college

