



# Prevent Strategy

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## **Purpose**

This strategy meets responsibilities placed on the College to meet current legislation in the national 'Prevent strategy'. The College recognises its duty of care to students and staff and its legal responsibility to comply with this legislation introduced autumn 2015. The aim of the Prevent Strategy is to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. The legislation defines extremism 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 death for members of the armed forces.' The College adopts this definition for purposes of implementing guidelines, recognising that these are values and concepts which are rightly the subject of debate and consideration in universities and colleges.

As a 'Relevant Higher Education Body', the college has policies and procedures in place which are not directed at any specific religion, religious group or at the proponents of any other set of beliefs. The College's aim is to be able to monitor, manage and deal effectively with the Prevent strategy in respect of any individual being drawn into violent extremism and eventually terrorism.

## **Principles**

This strategy sets out the principles of the London Churchill College Prevent Risk Assessment and Action Plan.

1. It outlines the partnerships between the College and key partners in ensuring compliance and delivering of the Prevent duty.
2. It outlines guidance for training of the necessary staff in relation to Prevent
3. The Strategy sets out expectations of the student body and its connected activities in delivering the Prevent strategy and makes clear the need to challenge extremist ideas which risk drawing people into terrorism.
4. Provides clear guidance of the referral procedure and establishes a single point of contact for operation of Prevent related activity.
5. The strategy sets out permissive activity on College sites and in the use of College IT equipment.

## **Risk Assessment**

The College deploys a risk register and has created a specific one relating to Prevent. The College general register includes, as elements the duties in preventing people drawn to terrorism and the risk of radicalisation. SMT monitors activity and the Prevent and College risk registers are reported to the College Oversight Board and considered on a regular basis.



The College has completed a Prevent risk assessment to review where and how students/staff might be at risk or drawn into terrorism or extremist groups, identifying actions to be taken and measures already in place. The avenues of radicalisation include:

### **External Factors**

Students / staff being exposed to extremist views whilst at College, or on College / HE related activities in London; Staff / students becoming radicalised through off-site methods.

### **College sites**

Risk of students / staff producing materials or consuming materials of an inappropriate nature on or around College sites; involving space management practices, managing risk and external speakers to LCC sites.

### **ICT Factors**

Students or staff accessing extreme material on College systems.

## **Action Plan**

### **College Prevent Steering Group**

A College Prevent Steering Group has been established to address all Prevent issues and ensure legal compliance. Membership has been drawn from all major College stakeholders. It is chaired by the Director of Studies (DoS). The group is responsible for overseeing an action plan to address threats and mitigate risks. The Plan is reviewed and monitored by the Group with advice from the Prevent HE/FE Co-ordinator. Regular reporting of progress on the plan is made to SMT by the chair or nominated other.

### **Partnership**

At the outset of this work the College held discussions with its University partner (University of Bedfordshire). These established joint thinking and shared views of practice. Discussions are ongoing with Prevent agenda activity highlighted at strategic meetings and the intent to continue discussion with the University's Chair of the Prevent Steering Group as necessary. The College's SMT is also strengthening the College's links with the local FE/HE Prevent Co-ordinators (Tower Hamlets, Newham) and developing clear communication working in a partnership approach to Prevent and associated counter-terrorism issues in Whitechapel / Forest Gate. Specifically:



- a) The College works with the University of Bedfordshire to meet our responsibilities and required practices in relation to the Prevent agenda to ensure actions are implemented.
- b) In respect of student recruitment all brand ambassadors / agents are expected to follow the College's Prevent practices to meet the Prevent agenda and report any concerns to the College.
- c) Placement and providers of work-related settings are expected to follow the governments' counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST and report any concerns to the College and relevant external bodies.
- d) In engaging with professional bodies we anticipate that they have guidelines and duties in place that they expect to adhere to, but in addition they are expected to raise any concerns with the College.

The Director of Studies is the main point of contact and authorised officer. Information sharing approaches in relation to Prevent is determined within the Prevent Steering Group.

### **Staff Training and Referral Procedure**

Staff training is provided to all College staff. Key College staff and stakeholders who will benefit most directly from Prevent training are prioritised. The training will enable attendees to:

- a) Identify the risks and signals of extremism and potential affiliation with terrorism.
- b) Understanding their duties and responsibilities in relation to Prevent.
- c) Understand the referral procedure and what actions to take with the information they have.
- d) Gain extensive training in relation to Prevent duty to reflect the nature of their work and function in respect of addressing Prevent issues.

### **Referral Procedure**

If any staff or students are concerned about a staff member or student, they must contact Mwi Oli, Director of Studies at [mwioli@londonchurchillcollege.co.uk](mailto:mwioli@londonchurchillcollege.co.uk) or nominated other. The DoS will liaise with relevant internal contacts and also liaise with appropriate external agencies. This might include: the local Prevent Co-ordinator and Metropolitan Police. Specific concerns about staff may be referred by the Prevent Steering Group to Masud Khan at [mrkhan@londonchurchillcollege.co.uk](mailto:mrkhan@londonchurchillcollege.co.uk) acting as the Human Resources contact. In the first instance for external referrals to Prevent, an anonymised case overview will be sent to the Prevent Co-ordinator for review and advice on whether a formal referral should be made.

In cases of doubt or concern referrals should be made without delay and directly to the chair of the Prevent Steering Group.



## **The use of the 'Net and other electronic communication means**

It is forbidden to use the College's MIS, IT and social media or other elements of the information management systems or processes for the instigation, promotion or planning or execution of violent or non-violent extremism, radicalisation or terrorism in the name of ideology or belief. The College's Information Security Policy clearly states expectation of use, transmission or receipt of obscene, unlawful or indecent images or material, and makes specific mention of the Prevent duty [see Moodle <http://londonchurchillcollege.co.uk/moodle/>]. The information Security Policy advises staff and students of consequences of accessing inappropriate material and the steps the College may take to monitor and/or intercept communications. This information is provided to students in the Student Handbook.

Staff or students who seek to research sensitive or extremism-related materials, must refer proposed activity to the Prevent Steering Group for advice. The College's approaches meet guidance of Universities UK.

The College reserves the right to ask students or members of staff to remove from the College's sites, electronic or physical, any material encouraging engagement with violent or non-violent extremism, radicalisation or terrorism related activities.

The Student Code of Conduct in the Student Handbook and the Staff Code of Conduct in the Staff Handbook advises on appropriate behaviours and expectations of behaviour from both students and staff [<http://londonchurchillcollege.co.uk/moodle/>].

## **Events**

The College is committed to principles of free intellectual enquiry, free expression and freedom of speech within the law and seeks to ensure its principles and practice is safeguarded within the context of preventing people from being drawn into terrorism. External speakers and events, including academic guest lectures, Student body activity, commercial external visitors, religious events are subject to the External Speakers and Events Policy which clearly outlines the process for booking such events and speakers and also the referral / escalation policy.

Religious and community contacts can offer advice in relation to religious events, and work with students and staff to counter extremism and promote good relations between people of different faiths and beliefs.

Events held off-site which are College or Student body branded are subject to the same criteria outlined in the External Speakers and Events Policy.



The college will operate its Codes of conduct and use disciplinary processes as appropriate in event of actions of protest or systematic activity which are aimed at preventing the freedom of speech.

The College ensures that it upholds equality legislation considering that gender segregation, such as holding meetings which are open to both genders, or seating men and women separately at an event, is not permitted. These events include academic meetings, speaking events, lectures or meetings organised for and attended by students, members of the public or employees of the College, whether or not held on college premises.

### **Welfare and pastoral care/chaplaincy support**

The College provides pastoral support and publishes the policy for use of the prayer rooms provided.

### **Confidentiality and Information Sharing and Record Keeping**

The College provides a number of support services to staff and students which offer a secure environment for individuals to discuss sensitive issues in confidence. The College is committed to a strict Confidentiality policy when delivering these services.

This policy recognises that the nature of the work undertaken by some College support services may result in the disclosure of specific information about an individual or a group of individuals engaged in lawful activity. In accordance with the law, such information can be disclosed to bodies within or outside the college, including the Prevent Co-ordinator, 'Channel', the police or social services.

### **Student body and societies**

The College's Student body plays an active and positive role in ensuring and maintaining cohesion amongst the College site(s) and the College and its students. College students are expected to adhere to the College Prevent and other policies whether on or off-site. The College has a policy to demonstrate the activities which are permitted on College sites. Working closely with the Student body, the College provides Prevent awareness training to the student representatives. The Student body and Lead Student Representatives are made fully aware of what is expected of them and their activities in relation to Prevent.

### **Terms and References**

Terms can be checked at the site : <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>



Terrorism – section 1 Terrorism Act 2000 defines terrorism as the use or threat of action where the action involves violence against a person, property, endangers a person’s life, creates a serious risk to the health or safety of the public or aims to seriously interfere with or disrupt an electronic system. The use or threat must be designed to influence the government, intimidate the public and must be made for the purposes of advancing a political, religious, racial or ideological cause.

Extremism – 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. It also includes the call for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas.

Non-violent extremism – is extremism, which is not accompanied by violence.

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

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.

Safeguarding - is the process of protecting vulnerable groups, whether from crime or other forms of abuse from being drawn into terrorist-related activity.

Any queries raised in this Strategy should be presented to the Director of Studies.

Further references

<http://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/policy-and-analysis/Pages/universities-and-counter-terrorism.aspx>