



# PREVENT Policy

Policy Details	
Policy Owner	Head of Student Services
Date produced	April 2019
Approved by	Policies and Procedures Committee
Date approved	April 2019
To be reviewed	Annually
Publication	4Policies and Student VLE
Version	2

## 1. Statement of Intent

Version 2 – Uploaded to 4Policies April 2019

- 1.1** USP College recognises the positive contribution it can make towards protecting its students from radicalisation and/ or violent extremism. The college will continue to:
- a. Empower its students to create communities that are resilient to extremism.
  - b. Protect the wellbeing of particular students who may be vulnerable to being drawn into violent extremism or crime.
  - c. Continue to promote the development of spaces for free debate where shared values can be reinforced.
  - d. Promote values of openness and tolerance which is characteristic of British values (British values is defined as ***“democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs”***).
- 1.2** Radicalisation is tackled using safeguarding policies and procedures in the college. Radicalisation is the process by which individuals come to support terrorism or violent extremism.

## **2. Relevant Legislation**

Prevent Duty 2015  
Keeping Children Safe in Education 2018  
Working Together to Safeguarding Children 2018  
Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006  
The Children’s Act 2004

## **3. Linked Policies**

Safeguarding  
Mental Health, Wellbeing and Fitness to Study  
Student Positive Behaviour

## **4. Background**

- 4.1** Section 21 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (the Act) places a duty on certain bodies, including schools and colleges, listed in Schedule 3 of the Act, to have ‘due regard to the need to PREVENT people from being drawn into terrorism’.
- 4.2** The college’s policy is formed from the National Strategy known as Counter Terrorism Strategy (CONTEST). It has four elements:
- a. Pursue
  - b. Protect
  - c. Prepare
  - d. PREVENT

**4.3** The area in which colleges have the most influence is 'PREVENT' which aims to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

## **5. Aim**

**5.1** The aim of the PREVENT Policy contributes to maintaining a safe, healthy and supportive learning and working environment for our learners, staff and visitors alike. We recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes for learners. We further recognise that if we fail to challenge extremist views, we are failing to protect our learners from potential harm. As such, the PREVENT agenda, will be addressed as a safeguarding concern and dealt with in accordance with guidance from the National Office of Counter-Terrorism.

**5.2** PREVENT happens before any criminal activity takes place by recognising, supporting and protecting people who might be susceptible to radicalisation.

**5.3** The national PREVENT Duty confers mandatory duties and responsibilities on a range of public organisations, including Further Education Colleges, and seeks to:

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

## **6. Context**

**6.1** PREVENT sits within the realm of Safeguarding at the college. All staff are trained and regularly updated on the Safeguarding Policy and associated professional practices and expectations.

**6.2** PREVENT is also integral to other areas within the college including:

- a. Equality and Diversity
- b. Health and Safety

**4.3** Issues related to radicalisation are included in safeguarding reports to Corporation.

## **7. Definitions**

**7.1** The following are commonly agreed definitions within the PREVENT duty:

- a. An ideology is a set of beliefs.

- b. Radicalisation is the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism that may lead to terrorism.
- c. Safeguarding is the process of protecting vulnerable people, whether from crime, other forms of abuse or from being drawn into terrorism related activity.
- d. Terrorism is an action that endangers or causes serious violence, damage or disruption and is intended to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made with the intention of advancing a political, religious or ideological agenda.
- e. Vulnerability describes factors and characteristics associated with being susceptible to radicalisation.
- f. Extremism is vocal or active opposition to fundamental British Values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

## **8. Who Does This Policy Apply To?**

- 8.1** The PREVENT Policy applies to everyone working at or attending the College. It places responsibilities on all governors; College staff; learners; agency staff and volunteers; contractors; visitors; consultants; and those working under self-employed arrangements.

## **9. STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 9.1** Compliance with the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 will require the college to demonstrate that it undertakes appropriate training and development for Governors, managers and staff. All staff receive awareness training on an on-going basis ensuring that they are up to date with PREVENT matters.
- 9.2** As part of the staff induction process, all staff will read and complete an assessment to ensure understanding of 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'.
- 9.3** There is no typical profile for a person likely to become involved in extremism, or when they move to adopt violence in support of their particular ideology. Staff should use their professional judgment to identify significant changes in behaviour which may be indicators of radicalisation.
- 9.4** If staff have any significant concerns about a student, staff member or visitor beginning to support terrorism and/or violent extremism, they should discuss them with the Designated Safeguarding Lead or a member of the Safeguarding Team who can refer further if necessary.

## **10. Governing Body**

- 10.1** All Board members have a legal responsibility under the PREVENT duty to make sure they have undertaken relevant training.

**10.2** The Board must also ensure:

- a. All college staff have undertaken training in PREVENT duty.
- b. All college staff are aware of when it is appropriate to refer concerns about learners or colleagues to the Designated Safeguarding Lead or member of the Safeguarding Team.
- c. All college staff exemplify British Values.

**10.3** Policies and procedures to implement the PREVENT duty are in place and acted upon where appropriate.

**11. Students**

**11.1** Students receive awareness training as part of their induction processes. This is further enforced through tutorial activities including exploration of the British Values topics. Curriculum teams will identify opportunities with the core study to highlight British Values too.

**12. Partnerships**

**12.1** The college maintains well-established partnerships, including a partnership with the Counter Terrorism Unit, to receive regular updates to keep staff and students safe and well informed.

**12.2** The college maintains partnerships with the Police through the Essex, Thurrock and Southend PREVENT leads to ensure high quality training and support, and works closely with the PREVENT regional coordinator.

**12.3** The college is represented at the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) and liaises with the relevant Multi Agency Safeguarding Hubs (MASH) to ensure intelligence is shared and acted upon as necessary.