

Loughborough College Group

Prevent Policy

1. Scope and Purpose

Loughborough College Group considers the welfare of students and staff of paramount importance and works to safeguard and promote their welfare, safety and health by providing an open, caring, responsive and supportive learning environment which responds to needs of students and apprentices immediately. The term students is used throughout the policy and relates to any student or apprentice enrolled on a programme at the Loughborough College Group.

Children, young people and vulnerable adults are particularly vulnerable to extremist ideology and radicalisation. Similar to protecting students and staff from other forms of harms and abuse, neglect and exploitation, protecting them from this risk is a part of Loughborough colleges' safeguarding approach.

As part of this ethos the college has considered the Prevent Duty and the importance of collaborative working between college staff, local statutory authorities, police, other educational institutions, professional partner agencies, policy makers and health providers to identify, detect and safeguard vulnerable people throughout the organisation

There is no single way of identifying whether a person is likely to be susceptible to an extremist ideology. Background factors combined with specific influences such as family and friends may contribute to a person's vulnerability. Similarly, radicalisation can occur through many different methods (such as social media or the internet) and settings (such as within the home). However, it is possible to protect those at risk from extremist ideology and intervene to prevent those at risk of radicalisation being radicalised.

The Prevent Duty Guidance (England and Wales) 2023, is part of a government counter terrorism strategy to develop a robust counter terrorism programme CONTEST. CONTEST has four elements Pursue, Protect, Prepare and Prevent. Prevent aims to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorists by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. The UK faces a range of terrorist threats. The most significant of these threats is currently from terrorist organisations in Syria and Iraq, and Al Qa'ida associated groups. Terrorism associated with the extreme right also pose a continued threat to our safety and security. All terrorist groups who pose a threat to us seek to radicalise and recruit people to their cause.

The Prevent duty guidance seeks to:

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

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- Provide practical help 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 or those already engaged in radicalisation activity, including education, criminal justice, faith, charities, the internet and health services.

The government has defined extremism in the Prevent Duty guidance as ‘vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

A system of threat level has been created 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 college risk assessment and action plan will be updated regularly and in accordance with updates to the threat level

2. Policy/Procedure Statement

The Policy is consistent with:

- The legal duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, as described in Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 and the statutory guidance ‘Keeping Children Safe in Education’ (2025)
- Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Children Partnership (SCP) and Leicestershire & Rutland Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) procedures and guidance for safeguarding children and adults.
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2023)
- Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education (2019)
- Guidance for Safer Working Practice for Adults who work with Children and Young People in Education Settings (2019)
- Prevent Duty Guidance (2023)
- Care Act (2014)
- Human Rights Act (1998)
- Martyn’s Law (2025)
- Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Act 2023

3. Definitions

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Prevent

In the context of this policy means reducing or eliminating the risk of people being radicalised or becoming involved in terrorism.

Radicalisation

The process of a person legitimising to support, or use of terrorist violence and forms of extremism leading to terrorism. A radicaliser is someone who encourages others to develop or adopt beliefs and views supportive of terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism.

Vulnerable/Vulnerability

Describes a condition of being in need of special care, support, or protection because of age, disability, risk of abuse or neglect.

Extremism

The UK government considers extremism to be the vocal or active opposition to the British Values.

British Values

The British Values are democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance for different faiths and beliefs.

Terrorism

An act or threat of violence which is carried out with the purpose of influencing the governments or intimidating the public. For an act of violence to be considered a terrorist act it must be for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause.

Extreme Right Wing Terrorist Activity (ERWT)

Describes those in ERWT who use violence to further enhance their ideology

Left Wing, Anarchist and Single-Issue terrorism (LASIT)

Encompasses a wide range of ideologies.

4. Equality Impact Assessments

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- a. This policy/procedure has been assessed for its impact on equal opportunities and will be informed by the aim to eliminate all forms of discrimination in all strands of the equal opportunities' legislation.
- b. This policy/procedure has been assessed for potential risk on data subjects due to the processing of personally identifiable information. All processing has been reviewed and is in line with all current Data protection laws and appropriate safeguards implemented to ensure that the policy has privacy by design as its underlying approach.
- c. This policy has been impact assessed where appropriate for Safeguarding, Health and Safety and Sustainability Factors to ensure that all potential risks are identified and mitigated, and that the policy supports a safe, inclusive, and environmentally responsible learning and working environment.

5. Policy/Procedure

5.1. Implementing the Prevent Duty

The Prevent Duty requires specified authorities such as education, health, local authorities, police and criminal justice agencies (prisons and probation) to help prevent the risk of people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. The 'Prevent Duty' sits alongside the colleges safeguarding procedures to help ensure that people who are susceptible to radicalisation are supported as they would be under safeguarding processes. All adults working with or on behalf of students and staff have a responsibility to safeguard and promote their welfare. This includes a responsibility to be alert to possible abuse including radicalisation and to record and report concerns to the safeguarding team.

The college has a Designated Safeguarding Lead, Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads as well as a team of safeguarding officers to be able to offer advice and guidance and support with safeguarding concerns. The Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads work closely with the regional East Midlands Prevent Coordinator, including accessing local Prevent networking groups to update on knowledge and localised risks. The college has a safeguarding and prevent action plan to ensure the duty is implemented.

The college will ensure it is prepared for terrorism in line with the requirements of Martyn's Law to help keep people safe in public places. Martyn's Law, officially known as the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act, is designed to help keep people safe by improving security at public places, including colleges. For education settings like ours, this means putting sensible steps in place—such as carrying out risk assessments, training staff, and having clear plans to respond to emergencies. What is required will depend on how big the venue is and how many people are likely to be present. Loughborough College Group fully supports this important work and recognises our responsibility as an enhanced duty holder to help keep our community safe.

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Concerns about radicalisation follow the normal safeguarding referral process as outlined in the Safeguarding Policy and staff training. Anyone concerned about the welfare of a student linked to radicalisation should make a referral to the safeguarding team.

The college complies with the Prevent duty in the following ways;

- **Risk Assessment**

Each college within the Loughborough College Group has a risk assessment in order to assess the level of risk of students and apprentices being drawn in to terrorism. The risk assessment highlights such things as raising awareness of Prevent, working in partnership, training for staff, curriculum and welfare, pastoral support, policies and recruitment, speakers and events, safety online, prayer and faith facilities, safeguarding, communications and freedom of expression.

The College Group uses the Prevent Risk Assessment and Self-Assessment Tool designed for and used by Colleges and all Further Education Skills providers. It is used to self-assess how effective our current arrangements for compliance with the Prevent Statutory Duty are and highlights actions that are included in the College Prevent Action Plan. The Prevent Risk Assessment is reviewed regularly to ensure any risks are appropriately managed and safeguards are in place.

- **Training and support for staff**

All staff, including Governors are required to complete Prevent training so they are aware of their responsibilities under the duty. This training is mandatory and is updated annually. Where staff do not comply with the training, they are unable to access college IT systems and return to work until the training is complete. Additional training opportunities will be provided to all staff to enable them to support and challenge and further understand the risks and vulnerabilities linked to radicalisation and the process for this. Staff are able to seek support through our HR functions or through de-brief opportunities with the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead, should they feel they need this.

- **Training and support for students**

All students and apprentices are required to complete prevent and safeguarding modules as part of their induction into the college. The curriculum teams have access to an online training module which is facilitated by curriculum staff. All students receive training within college induction and tutorial programme. The college also ensures support through its safeguarding procedures for students through the Additional Learning Support team, the Learner Welfare team. Support for students also extends to external agencies where required.

- **IT policies and processes**

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The college policy relating to e-safety, internet and email usage using college equipment is reviewed regularly. The college's web filtering systems alert the Director of IT and Transformational Change and Safeguarding Team. Where students and apprentices are required to research terrorism or counter terrorism as part of their learning, curriculum must inform the Director of IT and Transformational Change. Where students or apprentices are accessing such material online, a meeting will be arranged with the learner the Head of IT and the Designated Safeguarding Lead to assess the level or risk in regard to radicalisation. The college recognise online safety as being paramount to keeping students safe, the college use e-safe to track and monitor learner activity for safeguarding purposes, this is communicated to all students and apprentices as part of the learner induction.

The college has software implemented across campus called 'Alertus' which is software to be able to communicate cross college in the event of a lockdown situation. The lockdown is triggered by a member of the gold command executive team as part of the college critical incident plan. Staff, students and apprentices receive training, advice and guidance of what will happen in the event of a lockdown situation on the college campus.

5.2. Procedure for acting on concerns

All staff are responsible for ensuring the safety of students. Should there be any concern linked to a student or staff members wellbeing, including the risk of potential radicalisation, all staff are required to report this to the safeguarding team as per their safeguarding training and the safeguarding policy. Where appropriate the safeguarding team may make outward referrals to Channel Team or the regional Prevent Coordinator, where it is identified that there is a risk of radicalisation.

Following this referral, it may be deemed that external agencies and partnership working are the most appropriate support for the individual. This may not always be the case, the Channel Team may identify that whilst there have been vulnerabilities identified, these may not be linked to radicalisation and therefore the appropriate referrals and support will then be put in place.

Safeguarding/Prevent remain a priority, the dedicated Safeguarding Phone provides support and advice to both learners, apprentices and staff. The phone is in operation during college hours as follows.

Loughborough College: 07979 737 474

Stephenson College: 07833 515351

Brooksby College & Inspire: Contact 01664 850850

6. Location and Access to the Policy/Procedure

This policy will be accessible via SharePoint and the Loughborough College Group site.

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7. Linked Policies and Procedures

- Safeguarding Policy
- IT acceptable use policy
- Critical incident management plan
- External Speakers Policy
- Online Safety Policy

Change Log

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