

Loughborough College Group

Prevent Policy

1. Scope and Purpose

Loughborough College Group places the welfare, safety, health and wellbeing of its students, apprentices and staff at the heart of all its activities. The College Group is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, supportive and responsive learning environment in which individuals are protected from harm and are able to thrive and achieve their full potential. Throughout this policy, the term *student* refers to any student or apprentice enrolled on a programme delivered by the Loughborough College Group.

The College Group recognises that protecting students from radicalisation forms an integral part of its wider safeguarding responsibilities. Children, young people and adults at risk may be vulnerable to extremist ideologies and influences, in the same way that they may be vulnerable to other forms of abuse, neglect, exploitation or harm. Safeguarding against radicalisation is therefore embedded within the College Group's whole-college safeguarding approach.

Loughborough College Group is committed to creating a safe, respectful and inclusive environment where students, apprentices and staff are protected from exploitation, abuse, radicalisation and terrorism. The College Group adopts a whole-organisation approach to safeguarding, recognising that vulnerability to radicalisation can arise from a combination of factors, including social isolation, exposure to online harms, mental health challenges, exploitation, personal grievances, identity-related concerns and contact with extremist narratives.

The College Group acknowledges the importance of effective partnership working in fulfilling its safeguarding and Prevent responsibilities. We work collaboratively with local authorities, safeguarding partnerships, law enforcement agencies, health professionals, education providers and other relevant organisations to identify risks, share information appropriately and provide timely support to individuals who may be vulnerable to radicalisation.

There is no single profile or indicator that can identify whether an individual is susceptible to extremist ideology or radicalisation. A range of personal, social and environmental factors may contribute to an individual's vulnerability, and radicalisation can occur through multiple routes, including online platforms, social media, peer groups, communities and family settings. However, early identification, effective

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safeguarding interventions and appropriate support can significantly reduce the risk of individuals being drawn into extremist activity or terrorism.

Prevent activities are delivered in a proportionate, lawful and safeguarding-focused manner. The College Group is committed to balancing its Prevent responsibilities alongside its obligations relating to freedom of speech, academic freedom, equality, diversity, inclusion and human rights, ensuring that all students and staff are treated fairly and with respect.

The Prevent Duty Guidance (England and Wales) 2023 forms part of the Government's counter-terrorism strategy, **CONTEST**, which is built around four strategic objectives: **Pursue, Protect, Prepare and Prevent**. The Prevent strand aims to reduce the risk of terrorism by preventing people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorist activity. The UK continues to face a range of terrorist threats, including Islamist terrorism, Extreme Right-Wing Terrorism (ERWT), Left-Wing, Anarchist and Single-Issue Terrorism (LASIT), and other emerging or mixed ideologies.

Terrorist groups and extremist organisations seek to influence, radicalise and recruit individuals to support their causes. The Prevent Duty provides a framework through which education providers and other specified authorities can work together to identify those at risk and ensure that they receive appropriate support and intervention before harm occurs.

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.
- 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

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- 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' 2026
- 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

Prevent

Prevent is one of the four strands of the Government's counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST. Its aim is to safeguard people who may be vulnerable to radicalisation and to prevent them from being drawn into terrorism or supporting terrorist activity. Within education, Prevent forms part of the College Group's wider safeguarding responsibilities.

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Radicalisation

Radicalisation is the process by which an individual comes to support, legitimise or adopt extremist ideologies, beliefs or behaviours that may lead to terrorism or support for terrorism. Radicalisation can occur through a range of influences, including online content, peer groups, personal relationships, social networks or exposure to extremist narratives.

Vulnerable/Vulnerability

Vulnerability refers to an individual's susceptibility to harm, abuse, exploitation, neglect or adverse influences due to personal, social, emotional, environmental or situational factors. Vulnerability to radicalisation may arise from a combination of circumstances and should be considered within the context of wider safeguarding concerns.

Extremism

For the purpose of this policy, extremism is defined as the promotion or advancement of an ideology based on violence, hatred or intolerance that aims to undermine or destroy the fundamental rights and freedoms of others, or undermine, overturn or replace the UK's system of liberal parliamentary democracy and democratic right

British Values

British Values are the values of:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect

Tolerance of those with different faiths, beliefs and worldviews

The College Group actively promotes these values through its curriculum, culture, policies and wider student experience, fostering an inclusive, respectful and safe learning environment for all.

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Terrorism

Terrorism is defined under the Terrorism Act 2000 as the use or threat of action designed to influence the government, intimidate the public, or advance a political, religious, racial or ideological cause, where such action involves serious violence, damage, risk to life or serious disruption.

Extreme Right Wing Terrorist Activity (ERWT)

Extreme Right-Wing Terrorism refers to ideologies that advocate violence to advance racial, ethnic, nationalist or supremacist beliefs.

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

Encompasses a wide range of ideologies.

4. Equality Impact Assessments

- 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

Changing this section to be 'more safeguarding led and aligned better with the Prevent Duty Guidance 2023

The Prevent Duty, established under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, requires specified authorities, including education providers, local authorities, healthcare organisations, policing

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bodies and criminal justice agencies, to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

Within Loughborough College Group, Prevent forms an integral part of the College Group's safeguarding arrangements. The Prevent Duty operates alongside existing safeguarding policies and procedures to ensure that individuals who may be vulnerable to radicalisation receive appropriate support, intervention and protection.

All staff, governors, volunteers and contractors working on behalf of the College Group share a responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of students and apprentices. This includes remaining vigilant to indicators of abuse, exploitation, radicalisation or extremism and reporting concerns promptly in accordance with the College Group's safeguarding procedures.

The College Group maintains a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSLs) and Safeguarding Officers who provide advice, guidance and support relating to safeguarding and Prevent concerns. The DSL and DDSLs work closely with regional Prevent Coordinators, Channel partners and local safeguarding agencies to ensure the College Group remains aware of emerging risks, local threat profiles and best practice developments.

The College Group maintains a Prevent Risk Assessment and Prevent Action Plan, which are reviewed regularly and monitored through the College's safeguarding and governance arrangements. These documents identify local, regional and national risks, establish appropriate mitigation measures and support ongoing compliance with statutory responsibilities.

The College Group is committed to ensuring that it is prepared to respond appropriately to the risks associated with terrorism and major incidents. In accordance with the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 (Martyn's Law), the College Group will implement proportionate security measures, emergency planning arrangements, staff training and risk management processes to help maintain the safety and security of students, staff, visitors and the wider College community.

Concerns relating to radicalisation or vulnerability to extremist influence will be managed through the College Group's safeguarding procedures. Any member of staff, student, apprentice or visitor who has concerns about an individual should report them immediately to the Safeguarding Team. Where appropriate, referrals may be made to external agencies, including Prevent and Channel, to ensure that individuals receive timely and appropriate support.

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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, governors and other relevant individuals working on behalf of the College Group are required to undertake mandatory Prevent training appropriate to their role. This training forms part of the College Group's wider safeguarding training programme and is refreshed annually.

- Training ensures that staff understand:
- Their responsibilities under the Prevent Duty.
- The indicators and vulnerabilities associated with radicalisation.
- Local referral procedures.
- The role of Channel and Prevent partners.
- Online harms, including online radicalisation and extremist content.
- Information sharing and safeguarding responsibilities.

The College Group will provide additional training, briefings and awareness-raising opportunities in response to emerging risks, changes in legislation or local safeguarding priorities.

Staff are encouraged to seek advice and support from the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSLs), Safeguarding Team or Human Resources where they require further guidance or support relating to safeguarding or Prevent concerns.

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- **Training and support for students**

All students and apprentices receive Prevent and safeguarding education as part of their induction and ongoing tutorial, enrichment or curriculum programmes.

The College Group promotes awareness of:

- Radicalisation and extremism.
- Online safety and digital resilience.
- Misinformation and disinformation.
- Fundamental British Values.
- Respect, inclusion and tolerance.
- How to recognise and report safeguarding concerns.

Curriculum teams are supported through access to appropriate learning resources and training materials to facilitate discussions and learning activities relating to Prevent, safeguarding and online safety.

Students and apprentices who require additional support will be assisted through the College Group's safeguarding arrangements, including the Safeguarding Team, Student Welfare Services and Additional Learning Support teams. Where appropriate, support may also be provided through partnership working with external agencies and specialist services

- **IT policies and processes**

The College Group's policies relating to online safety, acceptable use of IT, internet access and email usage are reviewed regularly to ensure they remain effective, compliant and responsive to emerging risks.

The College Group recognises that online safety is a fundamental component of safeguarding and that extremist content, radicalising influences and harmful narratives may be encountered through online platforms, social media, gaming environments, messaging applications and other digital technologies. To help protect students and apprentices, appropriate filtering and monitoring systems are in place across College networks and devices.

The College's filtering and monitoring systems provide alerts to the Director of IT and Transformational Programmes and the Safeguarding Team where potentially concerning activity is identified. The effectiveness of filtering and monitoring systems will be reviewed at least annually by the designated senior leader responsible for filtering and monitoring, supported by the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and IT teams. The outcomes of these reviews will inform ongoing safeguarding, risk assessment and online safety arrangements.

Where students or apprentices are required to access terrorism or counter-terrorism related materials as part of their curriculum or research activities, the relevant curriculum area must notify the Director of IT and

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Transformational Programmes in advance. Where such activity generates safeguarding concerns or monitoring alerts, a meeting will be convened involving the student, appropriate curriculum staff, Director of IT and Transformational Programmes, and the Designated Safeguarding Lead to assess the context, level of risk and whether any further safeguarding intervention is required.

The College Group uses monitoring systems, including eSafe, to support its safeguarding responsibilities by identifying potential risks to students. Students and apprentices are made aware of these arrangements during induction and through ongoing online safety education.

The College Group also operates the Alertus emergency notification system across its campuses to support communication during critical incidents, including lockdown situations. The activation of a lockdown is managed by an authorised member of the Gold Command Executive Team in accordance with the College Critical Incident Management Plan. Staff, students and apprentices receive appropriate training, guidance and information regarding emergency and lockdown procedures to ensure they understand how to respond safely and effectively.

5.2. Procedure for acting on concerns

All staff are responsible for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of students, apprentices and colleagues. Where there are concerns regarding an individual's welfare or wellbeing, including concerns relating to radicalisation, extremism or vulnerability to being drawn into terrorism, these must be reported promptly to the Safeguarding Team in accordance with the College Group's Safeguarding Policy and safeguarding reporting procedures.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSLs) and Safeguarding Team will assess concerns and determine the most appropriate course of action. Where necessary, referrals may be made to external agencies, including the Channel Panel, Prevent Coordinators, Local Authorities, Police or other safeguarding partners where there are concerns that an individual may be vulnerable to radicalisation.

Following assessment, it may be determined that multi-agency intervention and partnership support are the most appropriate means of supporting the individual. In some cases, vulnerabilities may be identified that are not linked to radicalisation. Where this occurs, alternative safeguarding, welfare or support arrangements will be considered, and appropriate referrals made to ensure the individual receives the support they need.

Prevent and safeguarding remain a priority across the College Group. Advice, guidance and support are available to students, apprentices and staff through the Safeguarding Team during normal College operating hours.

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**Safeguarding Contact Details:****Loughborough College: 07979 737 474****Stephenson College: 07833 515351****Brooksby College & Ignite: 07920 275272**

6. Location and Access to the Policy/Procedure

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

7. Linked Policies and Procedures

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

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Change Log

Version	Date	Section	Change Description	Reviewer
1.1	14.08.2026	Scope and Purpose	Revised introductory section to strengthen alignment with safeguarding principles, Prevent Duty Guidance, KCSIE 2026 and the College Group's whole-college approach to safeguarding.	Group Director for Safeguarding and EDI
1.1	14.08.2026	Definitions	Updated definitions of Prevent, Radicalisation, Vulnerability, Extremism, British Values and Terrorism to align with current legislation, government guidance and safeguarding terminology.	Group Director for Safeguarding and EDI
1.1	14.08.2026	Prevent Duty Implementation	Updated safeguarding responsibilities, referral pathways, multi-agency working arrangements and Prevent governance terminology.	Group Director for Safeguarding and EDI
1.1	14.08.2026	Risk Assessment and Action Planning	Strengthened Prevent Risk Assessment arrangements, annual review requirements, governance oversight and links to the Prevent Action Plan.	Group Director for Safeguarding and EDI
1.1	14.08.2026	Training and Awareness	Enhanced training, awareness and support arrangements for staff, students and apprentices, including Prevent, safeguarding, online harms, digital resilience and reporting concerns.	Group Director for Safeguarding and EDI
1.1	14.08.2026	IT Policies and Processes	Updated online safety arrangements, filtering and monitoring processes, annual effectiveness reviews, safeguarding oversight and emerging technology risks.	Group Director for Safeguarding and EDI
1.1	14.08.2026	External Partnerships and Referrals	Revised procedures relating to Prevent referrals, Channel processes, partnership working and safeguarding interventions.	Group Director for Safeguarding and EDI
1.1	14.08.2026	Martyn's Law	Updated references to the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act and College preparedness, security and emergency planning responsibilities.	Group Director for Safeguarding and EDI

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1.1	14.08.2026	Governance, Monitoring and Assurance	Added governance arrangements, compliance monitoring, assurance reporting, risk management and oversight responsibilities for Prevent.	Group Director for Safeguarding and EDI
1.1	14.08.2026	Policy Review	Comprehensive review completed to strengthen alignment with KCSIE 2026, Prevent Duty Guidance, safeguarding best practice, online safety requirements, governance expectations and statutory responsibilities.	Group Director for Safeguarding and EDI

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