



Prevent Strategy

Reviewed and Adopted: September 2020

Next review: November 2021

Overview

This strategy is to be used in parallel with the College's Safeguarding Policy, and in response to the Government's PREVENT Strategy.

Radicalisation is a category under the safeguarding policy and procedures and any issue arising under this heading should be addressed in the same way as other safeguarding categories.

The College is involved in the 'Protect' and 'Prevent' strands of Contest. Protect is addressed through the business continuity plan, training and various planning activities associated with Health and Safety.

This strategy is subject to The Equality Act 2010 which recognises the following categories of individual as Protected Characteristics: Age, Gender Reassignment, Marriage and Civil Partnership, Pregnancy and Maternity, Race, Religion and Belief, Sex (gender), Sexual orientation, Disability.

The term 'student' is used throughout the document to describe all learners, both full and part-time in all settings, including work place learning, apprentices, 14-16 learners and HE learners.

Prevent Background

Prevent is one strand of the Government's counter terrorism strategy: Contest.

Contest includes four strands:

Protect – To strengthen protection against a terrorist attack.

Prepare – To mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack.

Pursue – To stop terrorist attacks.

Prevent – Prevent people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

Early intervention is at the heart of "Prevent" in diverting people away from being drawn into terrorist activity. "Prevent" happens before any criminal activity takes place. It is about recognising, supporting and protecting people who might be susceptible to radicalisation.

The Prevent Strategy has three significant objectives:

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

CHANNEL is a key element of the "Prevent" strategy and is a multi-agency approach to protect people at risk from radicalisation. Channel uses existing collaboration between local authorities, statutory partners, the police and the local community to:

- Identify individuals at risk of being drawn into terrorism.

- Assess the nature and extent of that risk.

- Develop the most appropriate support plan for the individuals concerned.

Channel aim is to safeguard and prevent children and adults from being drawn into committing terrorist-related activity. Its key role is early intervention to protect and divert people away from the risk they face before illegality occurs.

The UK faces a range of terrorist threats. All terrorist groups who pose a threat to the UK seek to radicalise and recruit people to their cause. The Prevent strategy is about risks of extremism from all groups and sectors of society. Extremist right wing views are equally important under the Prevent Agenda as concerns about extremist Islamic views. The college is a non-secular college and follows the dedicated policy relating to this.

Newham College Prevent Strategy

Colleges should focus on the risks of violent extremism, which represents the greatest threat at national level, while recognising that other forms of violence and extremism can and do manifest themselves within colleges and other training settings.

Newham is one of the priority areas for the Government Prevent Strategy. Newham College is one of the largest and most diverse FE and HE education and training providers within the London boroughs. Our students come from a wide range of diverse religious, cultural, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds.

Newham College has a key role to play in fostering the 'British Values' and promoting cohesion amongst its staff, students and the wider community.

Our strategy has four key objectives:

1. To promote and reinforce the 'British Values'; to create space for free and open debate; and to listen and support the learner voice.
2. To ensure student safety and that the College is free from bullying, harassment and discrimination.
3. To provide support for students who may be at risk and appropriate sources of advice and guidance.
4. To ensure that students and staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and preventing violent extremism.

In order to achieve these objectives the strategy will concentrate on five key areas:

Leadership

To provide an ethos which upholds our mission and core values of ASPIRE (Ambitious, Successful, Professional, Innovative, Respectful and Engaging) for all students, staff and visitors, and promote equality and diversity and understanding.

This will be achieved through:

- Promoting the 'British Values' through induction, tutorials and curriculum.
- Building staff and student understanding of the issues and confidence to deal with them through appropriate training.
- Establishing strong and effective student support services.
- Listening to what is happening within the College and the community.
- Implementing anti-bullying strategies and challenging discriminatory behaviour.
- Helping students and staff know how to access support in College and or through our community networks.
- Supporting at risk students through safeguarding and crime prevention processes.
- Focussing on narrowing the attainment gap for all students.

Teaching and Learning

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

- Embedding 'British Values', equality, diversity and inclusion, wellbeing and community cohesion.
- Promoting wider skills development such as employability, social and emotional aspects of learning.
- A curriculum and tutorials adapted to recognise local needs, challenge extremist narratives and promote universal rights.
- Use of external partners, programmes or groups to support learning.
- Encouraging and promoting active citizenship and learner voice.

Risk Assessment and Action Planning

To ensure that the College monitors risks and is ready to deal appropriately with issues which arise. It will do this through:

- Understanding the nature of the threat from violent extremism and how this may impact directly or indirectly on the College.
- Understanding and managing potential risks within the College and from external influences.
- Responding appropriately to events in local, national or international news that may impact on students and communities.
- Ensuring measures are in place to minimise the potential for acts of violent extremist within the College (Secular policy in place).
- Ensuring plans are in place to respond appropriately to a threat or incident within the College. (Draft - Business continuity and critical incident plan in place)
- The effective ICT and e-safety policies in place.

Working in Partnership

To take a multi-agency partnership approach to safeguarding and averting individuals from the risk they face before illegality occurs. It will do this through:

- Continuing to communicate and engage with our local communities through partnership working.
- Actively working with the Regional Prevent Coordinator, Local Authority Prevent Coordinator, Police Prevent Leads and engaging with local Prevent Steering Groups and other agencies at both a strategic and operational level.

Capabilities

To ensure that staff have the appropriate skills to use existing expertise and professional judgement to recognise when a vulnerable individual may need support through:

- Having an outsourced WRAP training program and support to staff across the college.
- Delivering an annual rolling safeguarding and prevent training programme.
- Ensuring that college governors and CLT (Corporate Leadership Team) are kept up-to-date with any changes in safeguarding and Prevent-related legislation.

How we embed Prevent in to the college

P- Promotion of 'British Values and secular policy around the college

R- Referrals are made timely to the Safeguarding Team and our external partners.

E- Educating our students through tutorials to raise awareness and promote reporting concerns

V- Vetting processes for all staff members and volunteers

E- Ensuring a safe environment for students and staff to thrive and achieve

N- Networking and communicating with our partners to stay informed and share information

T- Training annually for all staff and volunteers

Please also refer to:

Newham College Prevent Risk Assessment and Action Plan (Incorporating The Newham District PREVENT FE/HE Plan).

Newham College Secular Policy

Newham College Health and Safety Policy

Newham College Draft Business Continuity Policy/Process and the Draft Critical Incident Plan