

Prevent Policy

Policy and Procedure

Introduction

Preventing radicalisation of learners is part of a Government initiative to develop a robust counter terrorism programme. The UK faces a range of terrorist threats. All terrorist groups who pose a threat to us, seek to radicalise and recruit people to their cause. The Government Prevent Strategy 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 which need to be addressed, including education, criminal justice, faith, charities the internet and health.

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

It is crucial that Opps Training be involved in the Prevent strategy. Although our organisation 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. This strategy has five key objectives:

1. To promote and reinforce shared values; to create space for free and open debate and to listen and support the learner 'voice'.
2. To break down segregation among different learner communities including by supporting inter-faith and inter-cultural dialogue and understanding and to engage all learners in playing a full and active role in wider engagement in society
3. To ensure learner safety and that Opps learners are free from bullying, harassment and discrimination
4. To provide support for learners who may be at risk and appropriate sources of advice and guidance
5. To ensure that learners and Opps team members are aware of their roles and responsibilities in preventing violent extremism.

Procedure

Leadership and Values

Provide an ethos which upholds Opps core values of equality and excellence for learners. We will do this by:

- Promoting our core values
- Building staff and learner understanding of the issues and confidence to deal with them
- Develop partnerships with other relevant agencies

Teaching and Learning

To provide a curriculum which promotes knowledge, skills and understanding to build the resilience of learners by undermining extremist ideology. We will achieve this through:

- Embedding equality, diversity and inclusion, wellbeing and community cohesion
- Promoting wider skill development such as social and emotional aspects of learning
- Teaching and learning strategies which explore controversial issues in a way which promotes critical analysis and pro social values
- Encouraging active citizenship and learner voice

Learner Support.

To ensure that Opps team members are confident to take preventative and responsive steps working with partner professionals, families and communities. This will be achieved through:

- Establishing a strong and effective learner support service
- Listening to what is happening in the learner community
- Implementing anti-bullying strategies and challenging discriminatory behaviour
- Helping learners and Opps team members know how to access support through Opps or through community partners
- Supporting at risk learners through safeguarding and crime prevention processes
- Narrowing the attainment gap for all learners
- Promoting resilience against radicalisation.

Managing Risk and Responding to Events

To ensure that Opps monitors risk 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 Opps
- Responding appropriately to events in local, national or international news that may impact on learners and communities

- Ensuring measures are in place to minimise the potential for acts of violence where Opps team members meet with learners
- Ensuring plans are in place to respond appropriately to a threat or incident at Opps HQ or where team members meet with learners
- Develop effective ICT and e-safety policies
- Dealing with anti-radicalisation and issues arising from it in the same way as other safeguarding issues.

Reporting Concerns

Opps' Prevent Policy is linked to its Safeguarding Policy and the procedure in relation to reporting concerns is the same. Concerns of any Opps' stakeholder should be raised verbally with Opps Designated Safeguarding Officer, Jo Forster (01480 415930) , immediately. The Safeguarding Report Form should be completed after the concern has been initial raised within 24 hours. The Designated Safeguarding Officer will then report, as appropriate to the relevant Channel Board.

Training

Opps Team members undertake annual training on Opps prevent strategy and all teaching and learning materials used with stakeholders are included in Opps standardisation process.

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Person responsible for policy and review	DSO