Prevent Policy

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Vision

Loreto College is centred in God, rooted in Christ and animated by the spirit of Mary Ward, the founder of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Our vision is that it will be an educational community where each person has the experience of being loved and valued as a sacred individual created by a loving God; a community where students enjoy an enriching and liberating education that helps them grow into the fullness of life and empowers them to be men and women of courage who are alive to the needs of humanity and committed to making a better world.

The College aims to be an educational community which gives expression to the core values of Mary Ward - freedom, justice, sincerity, truth, joy, excellence and internationality.

Loreto College has the highest expectations of personal, academic and professional excellence. This document sets out the College's policy and guidance on the procedures it will follow relating to safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults. The college will endeavour to act at all times with justice, compassion and respect for the dignity and worth of all members of the college community but in doing so it will act in accordance with its legal responsibilities and its primary duty of care to children/ young people and vulnerable adults for whom it is responsible.

Introduction

The overall aim of the UK counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST, is to reduce the risk from terrorism to the UK, its citizens, and interests overseas, so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence. PREVENT remains one of the key pillars of CONTEST, alongside the other three 'P' work strands:

- Prevent: to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism
- Pursue: to stop terrorist attacks
- Protect: to strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack
- Prepare: to mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack

The Prevent Duty

The aim of PREVENT is to stop people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. PREVENT work also extends to supporting the rehabilitation and disengagement of those already involved in terrorism.

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. It sits alongside long-established safeguarding duties on professionals to protect people from a range of other harms, such as substance abuse, involvement in gangs, and physical and sexual exploitation. The Prevent duty helps to ensure that people who are susceptible to radicalisation are supported as they would be under safeguarding processes.

The objectives of Prevent are to:

- tackle the ideological causes of terrorism
- intervene early to support people susceptible to radicalisation
- enable people who have already engaged in terrorism to disengage and rehabilitate.

This current Prevent Policy is based on the Prevent duty guidance for England and Wales Updated 6 March 2024 under Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (CTSA 2015).

THREAT AND RISK

National Risk

The UK faces a range of terrorist threats. All the terrorist groups who pose a threat to us seek to radicalise and recruit people to their cause. The 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 needs to be addressed, including education, criminal justice, faith, charities, the internet and health.

Prevent deals with all kinds of terrorist threats to the UK. Prevent's first objective is to tackle the ideological causes of terrorism. The ideological component of terrorism is what sets it apart from other acts of serious violence. Islamist ideology is resilient and enduring. Extreme Right-Wing ideology is resurgent. Other ideologies are less present, but still have the potential to motivate, inspire and be used to justify terrorism.

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 current threat level from international terrorism in the UK is 'substantial' which means that a terrorist attack is a strong possibility. Education, like other key sectors, has a responsibility to promote values of openness, tolerance and facilitating free debate which is central to being a British Citizen. In July 2019 changes were made to the terrorism threat level system, to reflect the threat posed by all forms of terrorism, irrespective of ideology. There is now a single national threat level describing the threat to the UK, which includes Islamist, Northern Ireland, left-wing and right-wing terrorism. With the current government alert at **SUBSTANTIAL** (as of August 2024) the College needs to be aware of risks and raise awareness within its community.

In the year ending 31 March 2024, there were 6,922 referrals to Prevent. This is an increase of 1.5% compared to the previous year (6,817), and the third highest number of referrals since the first period reported on (2015 to 2016). The Education sector made the highest number of referrals (2,788), accounting for 40% of all referrals this year; this is similar to last year (39%) and this is the highest proportion for any source of referral since data was first published in 2015 to 2016.

[Official Statistics: Individuals referred to and supported through the Prevent Programme, April 2023 to March 2024, published 5 December 2024]

Key Risks to Greater Manchester

A key risk in the North-West emanates from Self-Initiated Terrorism (S-IT). It is also a key risk nationally, largely due to the unpredictable nature of S-IT, making detection difficult. S-ITs emanate from all ideologies.

The second risk is from Online extremist propaganda. This remains a focus for both Islamist extremist and Extreme Ring-Wing Terrorism ideologies, with new and recirculated material disseminated. The nature of the online space transcends geographical boundaries and facilitates access to wider networks.

Radicalisation activity still poses a risk with both online and in person, continuing to be a key risk in the North-West. Extremist groups across all ideologies can utilise the online space to recruit, radicalise or coordinate attack planning.

Violence Fascinated Individuals is a new risk category that has been identified which is where there is a fascination with extreme violence and mass casualty. Ideological element often unclear or not present.

The college works closely with the Greater Manchester Prevent lead to inform of local trends as the college serves a student population located from across Greater Manchester covering various local authorities.

Channel is an early intervention based multi-agency process designed to safeguard vulnerable people of all backgrounds from being drawn into terrorism. For more details on Channel see Appendix i.

Context:

Sixth Form colleges are major education and training providers for the 16 – 18-year age group, particularly young people from ethnically diverse, and socially and economically disadvantaged areas. The age and profile of our students make it crucial to be involved in the Prevent strategy. The Prevent Duty clearly states,

''Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (the Act) places a duty on certain bodies ("specified authorities" listed in Schedule 6 to the Act), in the exercise of their functions, to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism".'

Extremism

Extremism is the promotion or advancement of an ideology based on violence, hatred or intolerance, that aims to:

1. negate or destroy the fundamental rights and freedoms of others; or
2. undermine, overturn or replace the UK's system of liberal parliamentary democracy and democratic rights; or
3. intentionally create a permissive environment for others to achieve the results in (1) or (2).

[New definition of extremism (2024) Published 14 March 2024]

Terrorism

Terrorism is an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people; causes serious damage to a person/people; causes serious damage to property; or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause.

Radicalisation

Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.
There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to an extremist ideology. Background factors combined with specific influences such as family and friends may contribute to a child'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 vulnerable people from extremist ideology and intervene to prevent those at risk of radicalisation being radicalised. Please see Appendix ii for further examples.

As a general principle, the College has a statutory responsibility to:

i. At all times, and by all means, seek to create a safe environment for the entire college community.
ii. Acknowledge that abuse may take many forms; physical, sexual, financial and material, emotional, neglect, FGM, forced marriage, hate crime, radicalisation and risk to self and/or others.
iii. Work with external agencies, in particular, local Counter Terrorism Units, GM Prevent Team, Local Children's Safeguarding Partnerships and the Local Authority Designated Officer, whilst always placing the welfare of the individual at the centre of any action taken.

This policy has been written using the Statutory Guidance: Prevent Duty guidance for England and Wales, updated March 2024. From: Home Office.
[https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance/prevent-duty-guidance-for-england-and-wales-accessible#section-2-introduction]

This policy should be used in conjunction with the following:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education
- Loreto's College Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Code of Respect
- Student Behaviour Policy
- Disciplinary Procedures
- Race Equality Policy
- Recruitment and Selection Policy
- Equal Opportunity Policy
- Whistleblowing Policy
- Code of Conduct – Staff
- Harassment Policy
- Health and Safety Procedures
- Online Safety Policy

Key Objectives

This policy 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 student communities including supporting inter-faith and inter-cultural dialogue and understanding, and to engage all students in playing a full and active role with wider engagement in society.

3. To ensure student safety and that the College is free from bullying, harassment and discrimination.

4. To provide support for students who may be at risk and develop appropriate sources of advice and guidance.

5. To ensure that students and staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities in preventing violent extremism and radicalisation.

Principles

This policy is not directed at any specific ideology, religion, religious group or religious faith, or at the proponents of any other sets of beliefs. Its principal aim is to ensure that the College is able to monitor, manage and deal effectively with the threat posed by any individual or group of individuals engaging in violent extremism in the name of ideology or belief.

The policy commits the College to the promotion of cohesive and inclusive College community relations which do not allow any particular individual or group of individuals to be marginalised, stigmatised or excluded from College life.

Leadership and Values

Loreto seeks provide an ethos which upholds core values of shared responsibility and wellbeing for all students, staff and visitors and promotes respect, equality and diversity and understanding.

Loreto College values the fundamental rights of freedom of speech, expression of beliefs and ideology and tolerance of others which are the core values of our democratic society. However, all rights come with responsibilities and free speech or beliefs designed to manipulate the vulnerable or which advocate harm or hatred towards others will not be tolerated. Loreto College seeks to protect its students and staff from all messages and forms of violent extremism and ideologies including those linked to, but not restricted, to the following: Far Right/Neo Nazi, White Supremacist ideology, Islamist ideology, Irish Nationalist and Loyalist paramilitary groups and extremist Animal Rights groups. This will be achieved through:

- Promoting core values of respect, equality and diversity, democratic society, learner voice and participation e.g. Student Council, Hall Representatives, Equality and Diversity Ambassadors Learner Voice, Tutorial and Core RE Activities, Debating Society etc.
- Building staff and student understanding of the issues and confidence to deal with them through staff training and appropriate activities with students.

- Actively working with local schools, local authorities, local communities, police, MSCB and other agencies. Loreto College is clear that exploitation and radicalisation will be viewed as a safeguarding concern and will be referred to the appropriate safeguarding agencies.

Teaching and Learning

Loreto aims 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 equality, diversity and inclusion, wellbeing and community cohesion.
- Teaching and learning strategies which explore controversial issues in a way which promotes critical analysis and pro social values.
- Encouraging active citizenship and the learner voice.
- Individual subject specifications and SoW indicating where the Assessment Objectives cover "critical thinking" as specific learning goals.
- Discussion being used as a major pedagogical tool across the curriculum. All such discussion is "supportive" allowing students to express opinions and ideas; listen to opinions and ideas; challenge and be challenged; to sift evidence and arrive at conclusions.
- The discussion of "challenging" topics permeating the curriculum, for example from the background to war in History; moral dilemmas within literature; ethical concerns in biology and chemistry.
- The Core RE course in particular focusing on challenging topics in a supportive, discussion-based forum.
- The Tutorial Programme focusing on challenging topics through Assemblies and the delivery of weekly tutorial sessions. The tutorial programme has with a specific focus on Prevent during Prevent week in October.
- Flexible teaching approaches, as appropriate, to address specific issues so as to become even more relevant to the current issues of extremism and radicalisation.

Student Support

Loreto's Student Support services aim to ensure that staff are confident to take preventative and responsive steps working with partner professionals, families and communities to provide a supportive and robust environment in which students can work, grow and develop into responsible citizens. This will be achieved through:

- Maintaining strong and effective student support services which have a thorough understanding of the Prevent agenda.
- Establish robust external links with CTU, Prevent Community Police Team, Prevent FE Co-ordinator and the Greater Manchester Prevent Practitioner Network.
- Supporting at risk students through safeguarding processes.

Loreto seeks to help prevent harm from Radical extremism, either from the effects of this or from vulnerable students being recruited into carrying out acts of violence against others. Information on the Prevent Duty is displayed in Staff Rooms.

All staff are aware of the factors leading to violent extremism:

- Search for answers – extremism in identity, faith and need to belong

- Desire for adventure/excitement
- Desire to enhance self-esteem
- Identifying with a charismatic individual/group that offers social support
- Sense of grievance triggered by personal experience of racism/discrimination/aspects of government policy etc.

All staff are aware of possible behavioural indicators:

- Major behaviour changes
- Change in appearance
- Talks about another person who exerts a lot of influence
- Isolated from peers, associates with only 1 group of people, withdrawal from family members
- Additional vulnerability risk factors: SEN, Mental Health Issues, Alcohol and Drug abuse.

If concerns about an individual are not serious, the Designated Safeguarding Lead may decide that they can be addressed by action within College and concerns then reviewed. If the Designated Safeguarding Lead considers that the concerns relating to an individual are more significant, and require a multi-agency response they will:

- Refer the concerns to the Police (Counter Terrorist Police Northwest (CTPNW) AND the local authority Prevent Lead as this is now a dual pathway for Prevent referrals through the completion the National Referral Form.
- Make a referral to Children's Social Care and the Channel Programme via the Channel inbox.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead will consult and work with the local PREVENT team, with regard to radicalisation concerns regarding both students and staff to identify actions that should be taken to redress any concerns about child safety and welfare including protecting students and staff from extremist views, vocal or active, which are opposed to fundamental British values. All opinions or behaviours which are contrary to these fundamental values and the ethos of the College will be vigorously challenged.

Young people are encouraged by the College to express and discuss their ideas, thoughts and feelings through a variety of activities and have access to a range of events and opportunities which promote the fundamental British values of tolerance, respect, understanding and empathy for others. There is access to a range of extra-curricular activities, information and materials from a diversity of sources which not only promotes these values but supports the social, spiritual, moral well-being and physical and mental health of the students.

Suspected online terrorist material can be reported through www.gov.uk/report -terrorism. Content of concern can also be reported directly to social media platforms.

Chaplaincy Support

Loreto College has a Chaplaincy team, including Chaplaincy Lead and Chaplaincy Support staff. The Chaplaincy Team are available to provide pastoral care and support, as well as providing a space for prayer or reflection for those of faith and those of non-belief. The Chaplaincy Lead also helps to facilitate cooperation and dialogue across the diverse college community.

The Chaplaincy Pastoral team will seek to enable to allow students to develop their spirituality and moral self-awareness whilst at the same time undermining any attempt to promote extremist ideologies and beliefs. They will do this by:

- Regular monitoring by the Chaplaincy team and other staff of the Multi-faith Prayer Room and other rooms used for prayer, the Chaplaincy and Chapel to ensure that each space is being used appropriately.
- Careful consideration of any requests to use the rooms by staff or students, with students never being left to use the rooms for meetings without staff supervision.
- Enabling the Chaplaincy room to continue to be used for a wide range of activities from tea breaks, quiet study and as a meeting space.
- Enabling the Multi-faith Prayer Room to continue to be used by Muslim students for daily prayers, with additional spaces made available during the month of Ramadan to accommodate the greater number of students wanting to use facilities for prayer, and the Chapel for services and concerts throughout the year, including weekly mass and morning reflection.

Managing Risks

Loreto will seek 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.
- Ensuring measures are in place to minimise the potential for acts of violent extremist within the College.
- Ensuring plans are in place to respond appropriately to a threat or incident within the College.
- Developing effective ICT security and responsible user policies.
- Promoting awareness across the whole college community.
- Responding swiftly to signals that a young person is at Risk.
- Exercising diligence and prevent any organisation or speaker from using the college facilities to disseminate extremist views or radicalise pupils and staff.
- Operating a responsible booking protocol and will carry out appropriate checks and will exercise due diligence to prevent an organisation or speaker from using the college's facilities to disseminate extremist views or radicalise students or staff.
- Continuing to take account of the latest advice and guidance provided to help address specific vulnerabilities and forms of exploitation e.g. CSE, Radicalisation and Extremism, Forced Marriage.
- All staff being supported to recognise warning signs and symptoms in relation to Preventing Violent Extremism through inset training programme in the first term of the academic year.

Responding to Events

Loreto recognises that the environment for developing extremist ideologies is ever changing and so the college will seek to keep up –to-date with national and local government advice and guidance.

- Loreto will seek to respond appropriately to events in local, national or international news that may impact on students and communities.

- Work with relevant authorities to find out if there are any lessons to be learnt from the case about how local professionals and agencies work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people.
- If required, Loreto College will provide an individual management report for a serious case review and will cooperate fully with implementing outcomes of the review including reviewing policy, practice and procedures as required.

Monitoring the use of IT

Loreto, as a place of learning, acknowledges the key role IT has in supporting a rich and diverse education for both students and staff. The on-line safety of our students and staff is a priority and is supported through the following measures:

- Separate "ICT User Agreements" for students and staff. Both students and staff have to accept the appropriate ICT User Agreement at the start of every academic year in order to continue to use the college systems and access the internet. Both the student and staff ICT User Agreements contain specific references to the Prevent Duty Guidance and state clearly that any access to extremist web sites or extremist material of any kind is prohibited.
- To enforce adherence to this policy the college uses appropriate safeguarding and web filtering systems to block sites containing extremist material. These systems maintain a database of keywords and URLs that contain inappropriate material which is automatically updated. If a student attempts to access such a web site they are blocked, the attempt is recorded and an alert generated.
- Reports of attempted access to blocked sites concerning safeguarding issues including attempted access to extremist material are sent to Heads of Hall.
- Access using the college wi-fi is controlled and monitored using web filtering systems.

College Structures

The Principal, Deputy Principal and Head of Student Services and other staff as appropriate will ensure that:

- The college will consult and work with the local PREVENT team, with regard to radicalisation concerns regarding both students and staff to identify actions that should be taken to redress any concerns about child/young person's safety and welfare including protecting students and staff from extremist views, vocal or active, which are opposed to fundamental British values. All opinions or behaviours which are contrary to these fundamental values and the ethos of the College will be vigorously challenged.
- The policies and procedures adopted by the Governing Body to safeguard and promote the welfare of students are fully implemented and followed by all staff including volunteers.
- Safe recruitment and selection of staff and volunteers is practiced.
- A Designated Senior Member of staff (Andrea Pritchard) and Prevent co-ordinator (Amna Rehman) are identified and receive appropriate on-going training, support and supervision.
- Sufficient time and resources are made available to enable the designated senior member of staff and Prevent co-ordinator to discharge their responsibilities, including attending inter-agency meetings, contributing to the assessment of children and young people, supporting colleagues and delivering training as appropriate.
- All staff and volunteers receive appropriate training which is regularly updated, this comprises compulsory annual safeguarding training which includes Prevent training.
- All temporary staff and volunteers are made aware of the college's safeguarding policy and arrangements.

- All staff and volunteers feel safe about raising concerns about poor or unsafe practice in regard to the safeguarding and welfare of the children and young people and such concerns will be addressed sensitively and effectively.
- Parents/carers are aware of and have an understanding of the college's responsibilities to promote the safety and welfare of its students by making its obligations clear in the college/setting prospectus.
- Ensure that the Safeguarding and Child Protection policy is available on the college's website.
- Parents/carers are supported in the safeguarding of their child through the information provided on the college website and completion of documentation as relevant e.g., Term Absence letter.
- Ensure that the college co-operates with appropriate agencies and risk-based approaches to ensure young people are safeguarded against any potential grooming activities which may attempt to draw them into harmful activities e.g. CSE/CCE, radicalisation or extremism.

The Governing Body of the college will ensure that:

- A member of the Governing Body is identified as the designated governor for Safeguarding and receives appropriate training (Sr Patricia). The identified governor will provide the governing body with appropriate information about safeguarding and will liaise with the designated member of staff.
- A senior member of the college's leadership team is designated to take lead responsibility for safeguarding within the college. (Andrea Pritchard)
- The college's Safeguarding and Child Protection policy is regularly reviewed and updated, and the college complies with local safeguarding procedures.
- The college operates safe recruitment and selection practices including appropriate use of references and checks on new staff and volunteers.
- Procedures are in place for dealing with allegations of abuse against members of staff and volunteers and these are in line with 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' and Local Authority procedures.
- All staff, including temporary staff, and volunteers who have regular contact with children and young people receive appropriate training and information about the college's safeguarding processes as part of induction. Staff visiting the college or who work at the college on an irregular basis are informed about safeguarding procedures.
- Ensure that the college co-operates with appropriate agencies and risk-based approaches to ensure young people are safeguarded against any potential grooming activities which may attempt to draw them into harmful activities e.g. CSE and radicalization and extremism.

Freedom of Expression

- In order to comply with its Prevent Duty Loreto College recognises that Freedom of Expression may be limited in some circumstances and in particular does not protect statements that unlawfully discriminate against or harass, or incite violence or hatred against, other persons and groups, particularly by reference to their race, religious belief, gender or sexual orientation.
- The College, as a public body, has duties which require us to have due regard to the need to promote good relations between different communities protected by equality law. This may require active challenge to the use of offensive communication and hate speech.
- Although there is no universally accepted definition, hate speech is generally understood to describe forms of expression which incite violence, hatred or discrimination against other

persons and groups, particularly by reference to their ethnicity, religious belief, gender or sexual orientation, language, national origin or immigration status.

Visiting Speakers

- The Prevent duties identified in the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015, require that Loreto College has oversight of the content of any speeches or presentations by visiting speakers.
- At Loreto College we encourage the use of external agencies or speakers to enrich the experiences of our students, however we will positively vet those external agencies, individuals or speakers who we engage to provide such learning opportunities or experiences for our students.
- Organisers of a visiting speaker/agency will assess the suitability and effectiveness of input from external agencies or individuals. When a speaker is booked for an event/talk at college, the staff member organising the event will liaise with the speaker to outline what is required from them regarding the theme of the speech and the event/talk. The speaker will supply an outline of this before the event.
- The organiser will then let the Director of Admin and College Services know about the event, so they can organise the logistics surrounding the event/talk.
- Security and Reception will be informed about the event so car parking spaces can be saved and the visitor(s) name can be added to our electronic booking system.
- On the day of the event the visitor will sign in at reception and be given a visitors badge with their photograph on, along with Health and Safety instructions. The visitor will then be shown to the venue of the talk by either a member of the college services team or the event organiser.
- At no time will the visitor be on their own, a Loreto staff member with them throughout the event. Once the event is over the visitor will be shown back to reception to sign out.
- If the assessment or event itself raises concerns, the organiser/ Director of Admin and College Services will discuss these concerns with the Designated Person.
- We recognise, however, that the ethos of Loreto College is to encourage students to understand opposing views and ideologies and to be able to actively engage with them in informed debate.

Reporting Concerns

- Early reporting of any concern, however apparently trivial, is essential to prevent escalation in the case of an actual threat / risk. Staff are aware that reporting of any Prevent concern should be recorded in the same format as any safeguarding issue (see appendix ii for college wide referral structure), where the disclosure is reported to a Head of Hall/ Safeguarding team recorded under the safeguarding button on the student log on MyLoreto. The College Safeguarding Officers /designated person are the first point of contact for staff where concerns have been raised. The College PREVENT Lead is the College Senior Safeguarding Lead –Andrea Pritchard.
- Staff should be aware of changes in learner behaviour, particularly isolation or withdrawal from activities previously enjoyed. In this instance, speak with the learner to try to establish the cause – if in doubt, seek advice. Any unexplained absences where the learner cannot be contacted or the family are unable to satisfactorily explain the learner absence or state their whereabouts, should be passed on to the Safeguarding Lead.

- Staff are aware of the importance of informing the Safeguarding Lead if they have any concerns relating to external influences that promote extremist activities - such as literature, whether in the form of books, leaflets or posters, emails etc.
- Safeguarding team will use the student risk assessment framework (see appendix iii) to ensure that the correct level of risk can be identified for the student and that appropriate action can be taken by the Safeguarding Team at college.
- The college will at all times take into account the duty it has to have 'due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism'. This duty still applies even when a student is no longer part of the Loreto community. The college will pass on any relevant information to external bodies, as appropriate, to comply with this duty.
- From 29 May 2025, the National Prevent referral form has been introduced whereby authorities with concerns about potential radicalisation into terrorism or reason to believe that someone is susceptible to radicalisation complete the National Prevent referral form to make a referral to the police. Please see a copy of this form in Appendix iii. Once the Prevent referral form has been completed, it will carry an Official Sensitive protective marking, which means that the information will need to be handled with risk appropriate security measures. Once a Prevent referral has been received by the Police and the Local Authority, the Local Authority will assess if there are any immediate safeguarding concerns for the individual whilst Counter Terrorism Policing Northwest will assess whether there is any concerns of radicalisation. There are three potential outcomes for a referral they are:
    - Closed no further action – referrer will be informed and the case will be signposted if necessary.
    - Counter Terrorism Policing North West (CTPNW) will manage the concerns raised.
    - Referral to Channel – for consideration of multi-agency support. The referrer will be contacted as part of the assessment process by the Channel Coordinator.

    The Greater Manchester Channel Team will note the Prevent referral for monitoring and reporting purposes.
- The DfE helpline for anyone concerned about a child who may be at risk of extremism, or about extremism within an organisation working with children and young people. Email: counter.extremism@education.gov.uk Telephone: 020 7340 7264

For more information see:
The Prevent Duty, Department of Education

Prevent Duty Guidance for Further Education Institutions in England and Wales, HM Government

Keeping Children Safe in Education, Department for Education

Educate Against Hate, is a government website designed to support school teachers and leaders to help them safeguard their students from radicalisation and extremism. The platform provides free information and resources to help school staff identify and address the risks, as well as build resilience to radicalisation.

The Home Office has developed three e-learning modules:

• Prevent awareness e-learning offers an introduction to the Prevent duty.
https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/edu/screen1.html

• Prevent referrals e-learning supports staff to make Prevent referrals that are robust, informed and with good intention.
https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/prevent_referrals/01-welcome.html

• Channel awareness e-learning is aimed at staff who may be asked to contribute to or sit on a multi-agency Channel panel.
https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/channel_awareness/01-welcome.html

Appendices

Appendix i:

Channel

Channel can help people to make positive choices about their lives. It is an early intervention based multi-agency process designed to safeguard vulnerable people of all backgrounds from being drawn into terrorism.

Channel is a local authority lead process, which involves a range of statutory partners who meet on a monthly basis at a multi-agency Channel Panel, to discuss what help and support can be offered to individuals who are assessed as being vulnerable to radicalisation.

Channel can offer a wide range of coordinated support, including:

- Education, training and mentoring opportunities
- Access to services and activities that offer support tailored to an individual's needs
- Access to people with specialist knowledge, or just someone to talk with
- Open and honest conversations about issues of concern
- Support for family members and loved ones.

Taking part in Channel is voluntary, which means that consent must be granted by the individual or parent/guardian in order for any support to be offered. Where we cannot seek consent, then the case will be closed to the Channel process and reviewed by CTPNW. Channel is a supportive process to help anyone, regardless of their background, faith or ethnicity, from being drawn into any form of extremism, before they become involved in illegal activity.

For more information on Channel and how to spot the signs please visit www.ltai.info. The referrer will be notified by the Local Authority Channel Coordinator if the Prevent Referral has been forwarded to the Greater Manchester Channel Team for consideration by the Channel Panel. A vulnerability assessment will then be undertaken to assess the risk of being drawn into radicalisation. If the individual is assessed as being at risk the case will be heard at the local authority Channel Panel meeting for consideration of multi-agency support. The referring agency / organisation may also be invited to attend the Channel Panel.

Further Channel guidance can be found on the GOV.UK website. The Channel Team is based at GMP Headquarters within the Northwest Counter-Terrorism Unit. The telephone contact number is 0161 856 6362. The email address is channel.project@gmp.police.uk.

Appendix ii:

Examples to consider in Prevent spaces:

1. **Incels**

Incel is an abbreviation of "involuntary celibate".

Incels are an online community built around sexuality whose members are mostly men who wish to, but do not, have sexual relations with women. Members of the community share a sense of being both sexually and romantically undesirable, which leads to a self-definition as victims of women and society, and hatred towards an online imagined community/community of practice who wish to, but do not, have sexual relations with women. Owing to this identity, they view themselves as non-normative within broader society and see women and societal standards of masculinity as the cause of their problems.

The college will seek support from Channel and make a referral to Prevent where there are concerns about vulnerability to or interest in Incel in line with local safeguarding procedures.

Some authorities have begun to treat the ideology as a more serious terrorism threat. Men who call themselves involuntary celibates have carried out mass killings in North America. It is a growing concern in the UK.

2. **Mixed, Unstable or Unclear ideology (often abbreviated to MUU)**

A significant proportion of Prevent referrals (51% in 2020/21) are categorised as being of a Mixed, Unstable or Unclear ideology (MUU). MUU is defined by its variability, so often no exclusive and exhaustive definition can be given.

However, several characteristics are common across individuals in the Prevent/Channel system, as well as those who have committed acts of mass violence, that could reasonably be identified as consistent with MUU ideological drivers.

- Complex family backgrounds
- Special educational needs, especially Autism Spectrum Disorder
- ASD traits: rigidity of thought; theory of mind deficit; fixation/obsessive behaviour; lack of understanding of social taboos; isolation or social unease
- Excessive & concerning use of the internet

The college will ensure relevant staff are briefed effectively regarding the broader concerns that may fall within MUU category of referral. The college will ensure that Prevent referral pathways capture MUU concerns & behaviours to allow appropriate consideration & support.

3. **Conspiracy theories**

Conspiracy theories can act as gateways to radicalised thinking and sometimes violence. Conspiracy theories can be spread very quicky over the internet and social media, with an ever-increasing range of audiences consuming this content. In some cases, a blurring of ideologies with personal

narratives makes it harder to assess the risk that people may pose. The need to understand motivation and intent is why in some cases it can take time for an incident to be declared terrorism or not, and why sometimes it remains unclear.

4. Violence-fascinated individuals

Such people are commonly known as violence-fascinated individuals (VFIs). This cohort is currently categorised under the Prevent Case Management Tracker as "Fascination with extreme violence or mass-casualty attacks". Individuals with a fixation on extreme violence or mass casualty events, which can be an indicator of susceptibility to terrorism or other extremist activity. This fascination can manifest without a defined ideology and may lead to engagement with extremist groups or online content.

Appendix iii

Below is a copy of the National Prevent Referral Form.

National Prevent referral form

This form is designed to help articulate a concern under Prevent - where you are worried a person is susceptible to radicalisation. Complete as much of the form as you are able; doing so will ensure that the person gets the help they need to keep them and others safe.

If you are a member of public sector staff, and would like to check your concern, you should contact your organisation's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or equivalent. If you are a member of the public and are concerned about someone, you should call the Aci..E..wh!.SJJ..J21JQrU.i11.e. on 0800 011 3764, in confidence to share your concerns with a specially trained officer or you can call the Anti-Terrorism Hotline on 0800 789 321. More information on what to do if you have a concern is available under _' ijtb1;1.IJ;2!orratliQ!;l.1ili!;l.tiQOJ QIJQ!;l[IJ§ QD_O_QV..UK-

If you are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech impairment, a police non-emergency number is available as a text phone service on 18001 101. Remember, in an emergency dial 999.

Once you have completed this form it is essential that you submit it to the police directly, or your DSL or equivalent will do this on your behalf. Where possible you will receive a response on your referral, but this is not always possible due to data-protection considerations and other sensitivities.

Where possible, do not leave any gaps, as the police may have to contact you to gather more information which will delay the process. If you cannot answer a question, explain why in the text box provided.

Prevent duty training: Learn how to support people susceptible to radicalisation
www.gov.uk/prevent-duty-training

[!) Details of person being referred

Complete where information is known and applicable.

This information will not be used to assess whether a referral should be adopted.
Any personal data provided may support Equality Act obligations. Please only provide personal data if this information is already known from an official source or was provided by the person in question.

Surname	An editable version of this form is
First name(s)	available from your local police
Date of birth or approximate age	or local authority.
Gender	
Ethnicity	
Nationality	
Immigration or asylum status	
First language	
Religion	
Current **address**	
Phone number	
Email address	
Social media identifiers for example, usernames and platforms	
Parent or guardian contact details	

Any other details that may be relevant to the concern

[PLEASE DO NOT COPY AND PASTE TEXT INTO THIS BOX. THE TEXT MAY NOT BE FULLY VISIBLE TO THE RECIPIENT]

IT) Describe your concerns relevant to Prevent

How/why did the person first come to your notice?

[PLEASE DO NOT COPY AND PASTE TEXT INTO THIS BOX. THE TEXT MAY NOT BE FULLY VISIBLE TO THE RECIPIENT]

What is the person's ideology or belief of concern if known? For example, extreme right-wing terrorism (ERWT), Islamist terrorism, left wing, anarchist and single-issue terrorism (LASIT)

[PLEASE DO NOT COPY AND PASTE TEXT INTO THIS BOX. THE TEXT MAY NOT BE FULLY VISIBLE TO THE RECIPIENT]

What specific concerns do you have? Such as, have they had contact with extremist groups or people that worry you, discussed travel plans to a conflict zone, threatened anyone with violence, shown interest in hate crimes, extremists, or terrorism, or used their mobile phone, internet or social media in a way that worries you.

[PLEASE DO NOT COPY AND PASTE TEXT INTO THIS BOX. THE TEXT MAY NOT BE FULLY VISIBLE TO THE RECIPIENT]

Describe any other concerns you may have.

[PLEASE DO NOT COPY AND PASTE TEXT INTO THIS BOX. THE TEXT MAY NOT BE FULLY VISIBLE TO THE RECIPIENT]

IT) Relevant or concerning behaviours you have noticed

Select the concerning behaviours you have noticed (if applicable).

D Absenteeism
D Abusive behaviour
D Anti-social behaviour
D Becoming socially isolated
D Change in appearance
D Closed to challenge
D Confrontational
D Concerning use of the internet
D Expression of extremist views
D Fixated on a topic or group
D Interest in conspiracy narratives
D Interest in extremist groups/causes
D Interest in weapons
D Legitimising use of violence
D Quick to anger/use of violence
D Seeking to recruit
D Self-harm
D Substance misuse
D Sudden abandonment of interests
D Support for gender-based violence
D 'Them and us' language
D Use of inflammatory language
D Use of symbolism linked to extremism
D Other

Provide more detail on all the behaviours selected above or describe a behaviour not listed. If you require further space, attach additional sheets to the form.

[PLEASE DO NOT COPY AND PASTE TEXT INTO THIS BOX. THE TEXT MAY NOT BE FULLY VISIBLE TO THE RECIPIENT]

8 Additional factors

Select any which apply to the person if applicable.

D Access to weapons
D Adolescence or period of transition
D Adverse childhood experiences
D Disability
D Domestic abuse
D Extremist material
D Family breakdown
D Family dispute
D Financial problems
D Gang or group membership
D History of violence
D Homelessness
D Illness
D Learning disability
D Links to criminality
D Loss or bereavement
D Mental health
D Neurodiversity
D Physical/emotional abuse
D Sexual abuse
D So called honour-based violence
D Socially excluded
D Thoughts of suicide/self-harm
D Trauma from conflict
D Unemployment
D Victim of abuse
D Victim of crime
D Victim of hate crime
D Other

Provide more detail on all the factors selected above or describe a factor not listed. If you are not sure which behaviour categories are relevant, provide any details you can. If you require further space, attach additional sheets to the form.

[PLEASE DO NOT COPY AND PASTE TEXT INTO THIS BOX. THE TEXT MAY NOT BE FULLY VISIBLE TO THE RECIPIENT]

IT) Your details

Surname	
First name(s)	
Organisation	
Address of organisation	
Role or job title	
Phone number	
Email address	
Relationship to the person	

IT) Details of the person who first identified the concern (if different from above)

Surname	
First name(s)	
Organisation	
Role or job title	
Phone number	
Email address	
Relationship to the person	

C2::) Details of the person you have shared the concern with

Provide the details of the person you have shared the concern with if known
for example, your Designated Safeguarding Lead or equivalent, or Prevent police

Surname	
First name(s)	
Organisation	
Role or job title	
Relationship to the person	
Phone number	
Email address	

IT) Relevant dates

Date concern was first identified	
Date of referral to Prevent	

IT) Safeguarding considerations

Does the person have any stated or diagnosed disabilities, neurodiversity needs, or mental health issues? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, provide further details of the diagnosis.

[PLEASE DO NOT COPY AND PASTE TEXT INTO THIS BOX. THE TEXT MAY NOT BE FULLY VISIBLE TO THE RECIPIENT]

Have you discussed this person with your organisation's Designated Safeguarding Lead or equivalent (if applicable}? D Yes ☐ No

What was the result of this discussion?

[PLEASE DO NOT COPY AND PASTE TEXT INTO THIS BOX. THE TEXT MAY NOT BE FULLY VISIBLE TO THE RECIPIENT]

Does the person know you are sharing this concern? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If **yes,** describe the response

[PLEASE DO NOT COPY AND PASTE TEXT INTO THIS BOX. THE TEXT MAY NOT BE FULLY VISIBLE TO THE RECIPIENT]

Have you taken any direct action with the person since this concern was identified? D Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe the action and result

[PLEASE DO NOT COPY AND PASTE TEXT INTO THIS BOX. THE TEXT MAY NOT BE FULLY VISIBLE TO THE RECIPIENT]

[!D Employment/education details of the person of concern

Current occupation and employer:

[PLEASE DO NOT COPY AND PASTE TEXT INTO THIS BOX. THE TEXT MAY NOT BE FULLY VISIBLE TO THE RECIPIENT]

Previous occupation(s) and employer(s):

[PLEASE DO NOT COPY AND PASTE TEXT INTO THIS BOX. THE TEXT MAY NOT BE FULLY VISIBLE TO THE RECIPIENT]

Current schooVcollege/university:

[PLEASE DO NOT COPY AND PASTE TEXT INTO THIS BOX. THE TEXT MAY NOT BE FULLY VISIBLE TO THE RECIPIENT]

Previous school/college/university:

[PLEASE DO NOT COPY AND PASTE TEXT INTO THIS BOX. THE TEXT MAY NOT BE FULLY VISIBLE TO THE RECIPIENT]

Not currently in education or employed:

[PLEASE DO NOT COPY AND PASTE TEXT INTO THIS BOX. THE TEXT **MAY** NOT BE FULLY VISIBLE TO THE RECIPIENT]

@ **If there is anything you have not been able to add to the form, but feel is relevant, please provide details or a contact number below**

[PLEASE DO NOT COPY AND PASTE TEXT INTO THIS BOX. THE TEXT MAY NOT BE FULLY VISIBLE TO THE RECIPIENT]

Thank you for taking the time to make this referral.

You should now submit this form to

[INSERT EMAIL ADDRESS FOR THE LOCAL NRF RECIPIENT MAILBOX]

or your Designated Safeguarding Lead or equivalent will do this for you.

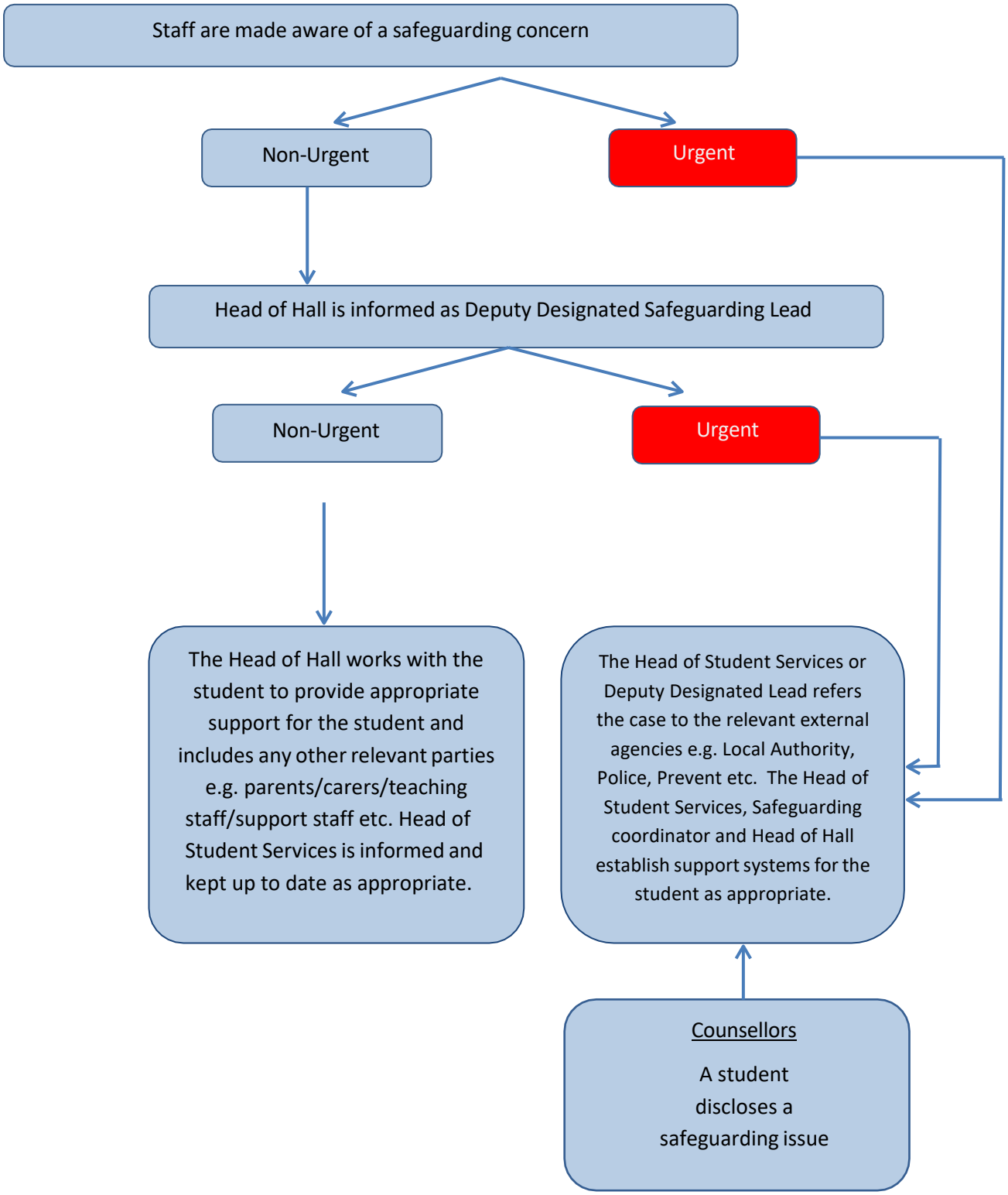
Information you provide is valuable and will always be assessed. If there is no Prevent concern but other safeguarding issues are present, this information will be sent out to the relevant team or agency to provide the correct support for the person concerned.

The Home Office and Counter-Terrorism Policing regularly conduct research in order to continuously improve the delivery of Prevent, and may contact you to invite you to participate in such research.

Tick this box if you **do not** wish to be contacted for research-related purposes. D

Appendix iv

College Wide Safeguarding Referral Structure



If staff are unsure as the whether a concern is urgent or non-urgent, always treat the concern as urgent. In an emergency, staff should call 999. Any member of college staff can make a safeguarding referral for a student.

Appendix v

PREVENT: STUDENT RISK ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK

(Adapted from Managing risk of radicalisation in your education setting: Department of Education; published 24/10/22)

Radicalisation has been defined as the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorists. There is no single route to radicalisation. However, there are some behavioural traits that could indicate that a student is vulnerable to radicalisation.

Radicalisation is not a linear process. Students may express a combination of behaviours at different times. The Designated safeguarding lead (AP), Safeguarding officer (CO) and the Heads of Hall team should consider student's behaviour in the context of wider influencing factors and vulnerabilities.

In most cases, Heads of Hall should speak with the student and their parents or carers. Heads of Hall should also consider contextual, vulnerability and protective factors to make a comprehensive assessment of risk and harm. Using the Safeguarding log via MyLoreto, staff should record all concerns, discussions and decisions made, and the reasons for these decisions. Only those on the Safeguarding Team have access to this confidential information.

Tell the police immediately if you think a student:

- is about to put themselves or others in immediate danger
- appears to be involved in planning to carry out a criminal offence

When identifying behaviours of radicalisation, these could fall into one of four levels;

- low risk
- at risk
- medium risk
- high risk.

A table of behaviours is listed below so that the correct level of risk can be identified for the student and appropriate action can be taken by the Safeguarding Team at college.

RISK LEVEL	STUDENT BEHAVIOURS	ACTIONS
LOW RISK Low risk means there's no evidence to suggest the student is vulnerable to radicalisation. Low risk behaviours, when seen alone, would not necessarily need to be explored further.	• Holding strong opinions or values (non-violent or non-extremist) • Criticising government policies • Adopting visible signs, for example wearing clothing (non-violent or non-extremist), to express identity or sense of belonging • Being active on social media • Taking a keen interest in national and international affairs • Taking a stand and supporting causes, for example animal rights (non-violent) • Showing new interest in a political ideology or religion • Holding or expressing conservative values or practices, whether traditional, cultural or religious (unless they cause harm to a child or others, for example female genital mutilation)	• Talking informally to the student about the changes in their behaviour • Providing an opportunity to debate controversial issues in a safe space e.g. Tutorial sessions and General RE. • Offering information about how to keep safe online Regular Prevent training will help staff understand what radicalisation means and why students may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism.
AT RISK A student at risk may be showing behaviours that could increase their risk and vulnerability to radicalisation.	• Being drawn to conspiracy theories • Beginning to isolate themselves from family and friends • Viewing or engaging with inappropriate online content and having uncontrolled or unsupervised access to the internet	If you think a student is at risk, Heads of Hall should look at their behaviour and gather all the information needed via the safeguarding log to make a full assessment of risk and harm. Heads of Hall should ask themselves: • Do you have enough information to make a comprehensive assessment?

RISK LEVEL	STUDENT BEHAVIOURS	ACTIONS
If a student is showing at risk behaviour, Heads of Hall should explore this further to see if a Prevent referral needs to made.	• Expressing concerns about being victimised, for example feeling under attack • Discriminating against other individuals or groups of people • A sudden change in behaviour • Showing interest in extremists or extreme groups • Expressing views that divide us, for example talking about 'us' and 'them'	• What has happened in the past to trigger the incident? • If this is an isolated incident or a pattern of behaviour? • What else you know and if there any relevant vulnerability factors • If there are any relevant contextual factors - for example, previous safeguarding concerns, behaviour, attendance, attainment, general wellbeing • If there are any protective factors - for example, supportive personal relationships with peers and family, environmental factors such as college or home life You should: • Talk to the student in a safe space • Talk to the parents or carers about your concerns • Make a holistic assessment of vulnerability, examining risk and protective factors.
MEDIUM RISK Medium risk means a student is at heightened risk of radicalisation. There may be several indicators of risk.	• Legitimising the use of violence to defend ideology or cause • Accessing extremist or terrorist websites, forums and publications • Expressing dehumanising views	If you suspect a student is at medium risk, you should assess their vulnerability and examine the risk and protective factors as set out in the statutory guidance in Working Together to Safeguard Children.

RISK LEVEL	STUDENT BEHAVIOURS	ACTIONS
If the student is at risk of harm, you must make a Prevent referral immediately. (AP/ CO)	• Expressing an interest to travel to a conflict zone • Being in contact with a group or individuals known to support a violent extremist ideology, either online or in real life • Targeting a 'perceived other' of some kind (perhaps based on gender or another protected characteristic), but not otherwise identifying with one particular terrorist ideology or cause • Being obsessed with massacre, or extreme or mass violence, without targeting a particular group (for example, high school shootings)	Heads of Hall should ask themselves: • If there's reasonable cause to suspect that the student is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm • What the risks are and what would happen if these needs are not met - what the impact will be on the student - what you're worried about • What else you know and if there are any relevant vulnerability factors • If there are any relevant contextual factors - for example, previous safeguarding concerns, behaviour, attendance and attainment records and general wellbeing • If there are any protective factors - for example, supportive personal relationships with peers and family, environmental factors such as college or home life. If the student is suffering from or is at risk of harm, you must make a Prevent referral immediately. This is a statutory requirement. Our Prevent partners may give us advice or forward the referral on to Channel as appropriate.

RISK LEVEL	STUDENT BEHAVIOURS	ACTIONS
		Heads of Hall should also carry out an assessment to identify whether any needs should be met by more than one agency, for example adolescent mental health services. AP and CO to advise if local authority suggest this when the Prevent referral is made. When you share information about a student who is under 18, you should try to get parental consent but only if it is safe to do so. Do not put the student in more danger.
HIGH RISK High risk means a student is at significant risk. There's evidence that they're currently exposed to terrorist or extremist activity and there's a significant risk to their safety. If they're showing high risk, criminal behaviour, tell the police immediately.	• Verbally or physically attacking someone due to their race, religion, sexuality and so on • Committing violent acts guided by a violent extremist ideology or group • Taking part in any proscribed violent extremist group (financing, sharing material online, recruiting others and so on) • Having a 'kill list' or detailed plan to carry out mass violence • Producing or sharing terrorist material offline or online • Recruiting others to a proscribed terrorist group or organisation **Interest in targeted violence**	Heads of Hall should ask if the student: • Needs support from more than one agency • Is about to put themselves or others in danger • Is at risk due to actions of their parents or carers, or wider family members • Has made violent threats towards college. Tell the police immediately if you suspect a student: • Is about to put themselves or others in danger by travelling to join a proscribed organisation, or • Appears to be involved in planning to carry out a criminal offence.

RISK LEVEL	STUDENT BEHAVIOURS	ACTIONS
	If a student supports the use of violence but is not particularly interested in an extremist ideology, or is interested in lots of ideologies, you should: • Follow the college safeguarding procedure and log concerns This includes if the student is interested in: • Multiple ideologies, such as white supremacy and involuntary celibates (incels) • Targeted violence - wanting to kill members of staff or other learners.	If you suspect a student is likely to commit an attack on your setting, contact the police and local authority for immediate support.

References:

Statutory guidance: Prevent duty guidance: England and Wales (2023) From: Home Office
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Statutory guidance Prevent duty guidance: for England and Wales (6 March 2024) From: Home Office
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance/prevent-duty-guidance-for-england-and-wales-accessible#section-2-introduction

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New definition of extremism (2024) Published 14 March 2024 From: Ministry of Housing, communities and local government.
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/new-definition-of-extremism-2024/new-definition-of-extremism-2024#:~:text=Behaviour%20that%20could%20constitute%20extremism,-Aim%201%20(negate&text=Using%2C%20threatening%2C%20inciting%2C%20justifying,legally%20defined%20rights%20and%20freedoms.

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Get help for radicalisation concerns From: Home Office Published 8 June 2022 Last Updated 29 May 2025.

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/get-help-if-youre-worried-about-someone-being-radicalised#full-publication-update-history