



Preventing Radicalisation and Terrorism Policy

Date: February 2024

Key Details

Policy Title:	Preventing Radicalisation and Terrorism Policy
Created By:	Assistant Principal-Student Services (DSL)
Approved By:	SLT
Date of Approval:	6th February 2024
Review Date:	February 2026
Responsible Manager:	Assistant Principal Student Services
Policy Category:	Student
Related Policies:	Safeguarding and Child Protection, Positive Behaviour Management
Policy Location:	Policy Hub and College Website

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Aims

New College Swindon (inclusive of Apprenticeships and Adult Education) is committed to supporting students and promoting learning through our core values, collaboration, ambition respect, and success. The aim of this policy is to implement a robust understanding and practices to prevent radicalisation and the potential for terrorist activity. We will do this by outlining clear guidelines and procedures that ensure the safety and well-being of our students and staff.

Policy Objectives

This policy will promote the safety of our college community by raising the awareness of the PREVENT strategy within a Further Education setting, we will do this by doing the following:

- Supporting staff in identifying potential signs of radicalisation.
- Encouraging a proactive approach and creating an environment where students feel comfortable reporting any concerns, they may have.
- Encouraging dialogue and mutual respect among students from different backgrounds, cultures, and beliefs, to promote an understanding of the root causes, motivations, and processes associated with radicalisation and terrorism.
- Collaborative efforts to enhance the sharing of information and support the development of prevention strategies.
- Ensuring the availability of counselling services, mentoring programs, and targeted interventions to address the needs of vulnerable students.
- Provide training for staff to equip them with skills to provide support and guidance to potentially vulnerable students, ensuring their well-being and preventing their involvement in radical activities.
- Providing strategies to build resilience among students, enabling them to critically analyse and resist potential radical influences.

Scope

This policy covers all students regardless of their background or protected characteristics which are: age, disability, gender reassignment, marital or partnership status, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

General Statement of Policy

New College Swindon recognises that students and staff may face a variation of difficulties in understanding the dynamics of radicalisation in the college community. The purpose of this policy and procedure is to ensure that New College Swindon staff respond to these situations implementing effective preventive measures against radicalisation by engaging students in critical thinking and promoting tolerance to enhancing student resilience against radicalisation influences.

Procedure

In order to achieve these objectives this policy will concentrate on four areas:

Leadership and Values

To provide an ethos which upholds core values of shared responsibility and wellbeing for all learners, Governors, staff and visitors and promotes respect, equality and diversity, understanding and inclusion. This will be achieved through:

- Promoting core values of respect, equality and diversity, democratic society, learner voice and participation e.g. via learner course representation, S.U. activities and opportunities to capture learner voice, mock elections to promote democracy.
- Building staff and student understanding of the issues, and confidence to deal with them through staff training and dedicated communication.
- Deepening engagement with local communities.
- Actively working with local schools, local authorities, police and other agencies.
- Reviewing and presenting to the College Principalship and Governing Body, at least annually, the College's Prevent Risk Assessment and Action Plan.
- Playing an active part in preventing radicalisation and terrorism in the local area with the Designated Safeguarding Lead sitting on the local Safeguarding Children Board, Prevent Board and Channel Panel.

Teaching and Learning

To provide a curriculum which promotes knowledge, skills and understanding to build the resilience of learners by undermining extremist ideology and supporting the learner voice.

This will be achieved through:

- Embedding equality, diversity and inclusion, wellbeing and community cohesion.
- Making a connection with young people through good teaching design and a student focused approach.
- Operating as a trauma-informed college using the New College Swindon Core Values of Collaboration, Achievement, Respect, Excellence and Success (CARES)
- Equipping students with the appropriate skills, knowledge, understanding, and awareness for resilience.
- Work on anti-violence and a trauma informed approach to behaviour, addressed throughout curriculum.
- Promoting wider skill development such as social and emotional aspects of learning.
- A curriculum adapted to recognise local needs, challenge extremist narratives and promote universal rights.
- Teaching and learning strategies which explore controversial issues in a way which promotes critical analysis and pro-social values
- Use of external programmes or speakers to support learning while ensuring that the input supports College goals and values.
- Encouraging active citizenship and learner voice.

Learner Support

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

- Establishing strong and effective learner support services.
- Developing strong community links and being aware of what is happening in the locality.
- Implementing anti-bullying strategies and challenging discriminatory behaviour.
- Recognising factors which may increase risk to a student i.e. vulnerability, disadvantage or hardship and implementing early risk management strategies.

- Sign posting students and staff to access support in College and/or via community Partners and external agencies.
- Supporting at risk students through safeguarding and crime prevention processes.
- Focussing on narrowing the attainment gap for all students.
- Working collaboratively to promote support for students across all areas of the College.

Managing Risks and Responding to Events

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.
- Identifying potential risks within the College and from external influences.
- Ensuring measures are in place to minimise the potential for acts of violent extremism within the College.
- Ensuring that plans are in place to respond appropriately to a threat or incident within the College.
- Responding appropriately to events reported via local, national or international news that may impact on students and communities
- Developing effective ICT security and responsible user policies.
- Managing External Speakers and Venue Hire through the appropriate policies.
- Liaising with the local Prevent Officer, Counter Terrorism Team, and Channel Panel to identify local risks and threats.

Staff Training

All staff, Governors, and volunteers complete the online Prevent training which is tailored to their role, as well as training on the local Prevent processes and terrorism profile as part of their induction training. They then undergo three-year safeguarding refresher training, which includes Prevent training. There are also regular safeguarding updates provided to staff all year round.

Reporting Concerns

Early reporting of any concern, however apparently trivial, is essential to prevent escalation in the case of an actual threat or risk. The College safeguarding team is the first point of contact for staff where concerns have been raised. The College Prevent Lead is the College Designated Safeguarding Lead – Assistant Principal of Student Services. The College Prevent Lead also sits on the Swindon Prevent Board and Channel Panel.

Observation of changes in student behaviour, particularly in those students who are most at risk due to any vulnerabilities. Staff should be aware of changes in student behaviour, particularly isolation or withdrawal from activities previously enjoyed. In this instance, speak with the student to try to establish the cause – if in doubt, seek advice. Any unexplained absences where the student cannot be contacted or the family are unable to satisfactorily explain the student's absence or state their whereabouts, should be followed up with the Progress Coach and potentially escalated to the safeguarding team as set out in the College attendance procedure.

External Influences – report any literature whether in the form of books, leaflets or posters, that promote extremist activities to the College Designated Safeguarding Lead – Assistant Principal Student Services. In their absence the concern should be reported to one of the colleges Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads.

External Referrals

As with other safeguarding risks, staff will be alert to changes in student's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Staff will use their judgement in identifying students who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately which may include the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (D/DSL) making a referral using the agreed local Prevent referral procedures.

All referrals will be made to Preventreferrals@wiltshire.police.uk by the D/DSL where it will be reviewed, there may be a need for a multi-agency Channel panel where information from partners is reviewed and the referral considered, level of vulnerability agreed and consider

what support may be needed. The College's DSL is an established member of the Swindon Channel Panel.

The D/DSL will also consider whether it is appropriate to share information with any new education setting in advance of the student leaving the College. This is to ensure the new setting is able to continue supporting the student through the Channel programme.

Further guidance also can be sought from the Anti-Terrorism Hotline: **0800 789 321**.

Arrangements for Health and Safety

This policy and its contents are compliant with and compliment the college Health and Safety Policies and Practices.

Legislation

Relevant legislation for example, the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, the Equality Act, 2010, Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023, and the Children and Families Act 2014. Statutory Guidance, Prevent Duty Guidance England and Wales 2023. Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (CTSA 2015).

The stated objectives of Prevent duty 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

All personal and sensitive information will be managed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the confidentiality clause in our Safeguarding and Child Protection policy.

There may be occasions where New College Swindon is obliged to disclose information, notwithstanding that the student has refused consent:

- Where the student's behaviour threatens the safety or safety of others.
- Where New College Swindon would be liable to civil or criminal liability for failure to disclose.

- Where failure to share information could result in a child or adult at risk being put at an increased risk of harm.

Monitoring, Reviewing, and Auditing

This policy is to be fully reviewed every two years basis by the Assistant Principal-Student Services (DSL) and Senior Leadership Team to ensure that it remains current and is informed by best practice and up to date legislative guidance. This policy sits alongside the safeguarding and child protection policy and college positive behaviour management policy.

Version Control

Document Location

This document if printed can only be considered up to date on the day that it was printed. For a current version of this document please see the Policy Portal.

Revision History

Date of creation: January 2024

Date of next Revision: January 2026

Version	Date	Author	Change Description
1.0	26-01-2024	Stephen Rodger	Creation
1.1			
1.2			
1.3			
1.4			

Approvals

This document requires the following approvals:

Committee/Principalship	Date
SLT	6 th February approved

Distribution

This document has been distributed to:

Title/External Organisation/All Staff	Date of Issue	Version
All Staff		V1.0

Equality Impact Assessment

Policy Title: Preventing Radicalisation and Terrorism

	Judgement	Explanatory Note if required
Does the proposed policy/procedure in any way impact unfairly on any protected characteristics below?		
Age	No	
Disability/Difficulty	No	
Gender Reassignment	No	
Marriage and Civil Partnership	No	
Pregnancy/Maternity	No	
Race	No	
Religion or Belief	No	
Sex	No	
Sexual Orientation	No	
EIA 3 – Does the proposed policy/processes contain any language/terms/references/phrasing that could cause offence to any specific groups of people or individuals?	No	
EIA 4 – Does the policy/process discriminate or victimise any groups of people, or individuals?	No	
EIA 5 – Does this policy/process positively discriminate against any group of people, or individuals?	No	
EIA 5 – Does this policy/process include any positive action to support underrepresented groups of people, or individuals?	Yes	
EIA 6 – How do you know that the above is correct?		Through reading the policy

Date Approved by the EDISC Committee: 12/03/24