

Prevent Policy

Prevent is a strand of the Government's counter terrorism strategy. The UK faces a range of terrorist threats. Threats are not limited to the threat from religious extremists and therefore, we need to be mindful of all potential threats to which our apprentices are exposed. All terrorist groups who pose a threat to us seek to recruit and radicalise individuals to their cause.

Prevent seeks to:

- Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and aspects of extremism, and the threat we face from those who promote those views.
- Provide practical help and support 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 the education sectors and the health service.

The UK has a system of threat levels which represents the likelihood of an attack in the near future. The five levels are:

LOW means an attack is highly unlikely

MODERATE means an attack is possible, but not likely

SUBSTANTIAL means an attack is likely

SEVERE means an attack is highly likely

CRITICAL means an attack is highly likely soon

The current threat level can be found [here](#).

The Government's Counter Terrorism and Security Act places certain duties on further and higher education institutions in relation to the prevention of radicalisation and extremism. This policy seeks to ensure that the DHA meets the expectations of this legislation.

Independent training providers provide education for apprentices who are particularly vulnerable to radicalisation. They have an integral part to play in developing and promoting a set of shared 'British Values'.

The government's own definition of extremism as contained within the Prevent Strategy will be the definition used within this policy and is:

“Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces.”

This policy has the following aims:

- To promote and reinforce a set of shared values, founded on tolerance and respect for others
- To create a safe space for free and open debate
- To ensure that apprentices are safe and that we create an environment that is free from bullying, harassment, and discrimination.
- To support apprentices who may be at risk from radicalisation and to be able to signpost them to further external sources of support where appropriate.
- To ensure that staff are aware of their responsibilities under this policy and can recognise and respond to vulnerable apprentices/people within their care

This policy should be read in conjunction with DHA Safeguarding Policy and Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy.

British values are defined by the Government as:

- Democracy
- The rule of law.
- Individual liberty.
- Mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs, and for those without faith.

Complying with the Prevent duty is a statutory responsibility for all education and training providers. Learners and staff are expected to understand the Prevent duty, keeping safe from extremism and radicalisation and British values. The Prevent duty and British values are also important topics to explore with learners in their own right.

Extremism presents a real danger in our society. It is important to remember that the Prevent duty covers all forms of extremism and to make sure that this is clear to your learners.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, the values of respect and tolerance are embedded in all teaching and learning sessions. This is supported by additional sessions and Hot Topics where necessary on a range of subjects that support values and values-based decision making. Trainers are empowered to encourage open and safe debate.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead for DHA has overall responsibility for the coordination of Prevent activities. They are supported by the Deputy Safeguarding Lead and Managing Director.

DHA has good working relationships with other agencies including local authorities, police and the regional Prevent coordinator. DHA will information with external agencies as appropriate to safeguard apprentices.

DHA undertakes regular prevent risk assessments. This risk assessment and subsequent action plans are reviewed on a quarterly basis by the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Managing Director who carries oversight responsibility to prevent activities within DHA.

All members of staff who have contact with Apprentices complete online Government training and annual prevent training; this includes the prevention of radicalisation and extremism awareness training. Training enables staff to identify and understand factors that make people vulnerable to being drawn into extremism and the knowledge of DHA processes and procedures to report concerns. This forms a mandatory element of staff training.

DHA employs web filtering intended to stop apprentices and staff accessing inappropriate material whilst using DHA IT equipment. This is encapsulated in the IT Acceptable Use Policy and breaches of the policy will be dealt with in accordance with the staff and apprentice disciplinary procedures. DHA promotes online safety and educate apprentices about safe and responsible internet use.

DHA proactively monitors attempts to access sites that are deemed unsuitable and extremist. The action is taken where this raises concerns about a student.

Reporting concerns about vulnerable apprentices

Concerns specifically related to apprentices who may be vulnerable to radicalisation, or being drawn into terrorism, should be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead - Kate Day – Email kate.day@dhassociates.co.uk or calling 07580864473.

Making a referral to Channel or other agencies

The Designated Safeguarding Lead will decide as to whether concerns should be raised with an external agency. The Designated Safeguarding Lead may decide to call a special meeting with the Managing Director to discuss concerns, make a referral to Channel and monitor issues.

All members of staff who have Apprentice Contact, are responsible for undertaking training on preventing radicalisation and extremism, for making themselves aware of the procedures contained within this document and for promoting fundamental British values as part of their day-to-day activity.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead has overall strategic responsibility for the implementation of this policy, the Prevent Duty, and for reporting concerns to external agencies as appropriate. The DSL is fully supported by the Managing Director.

Department for Education Prevent Coordinator for the North-West
Prevent.NorthWest@service.education.gov.uk