



tacs

TRAINING ASSESSMENT &  
CONSULTANCY SERVICES

Prevent Duty Policy



## POLICY AIM

The Counterterrorism and Security Act 2015 came into force on 1 July. This piece of legislation places a duty on FE organisations "to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism." Under the Act, we have responsibilities for protecting learners from the risks of extremism and radicalisation. This is known as the 'Prevent Duty.'

The Prevent Policy is intended to provide a framework for dealing with issues relating to vulnerability, radicalisation, and exposure to extreme views. To fulfil the 'Prevent Duty' we recognise that all staff must be able to identify learners who may be vulnerable to radicalisation and know what to do when they are identified. Protecting learners from the risk of radicalisation is seen as part of our wider safeguarding duties.

TACS is committed to ensuring it meets all its statutory duties and responsibilities and to ensure we provide a safe and secure environment for our learners.

The following national guidelines should also be read when working with this policy:

- PREVENT Strategy HM Government
- Keeping Children Safe in Education DfE 2021
- Working Together to Safeguard Children HM Government 2018
- Channel Guidelines

## DEFINITIONS

Some of the main definitions within the Prevent agenda:

**Ideology** is a set of beliefs.

**Extremism** is vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs; and/or calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas" (HM Government Prevent Strategy 2015).

**Radicalisation** is defined as the process by which people come to support terrorism and extremism and, in some cases, to then participate in terrorist groups.

**Safeguarding** is a process of protecting vulnerable people from crime, abuse or being drawn into terrorism related acts.

## CURRICULUM

All staff are trained to promote respect, equality, and diversity. Fostering an environment for mutual respect and tolerance as well as an awareness of the Prevent Duty.

This is achieved by:

- Curriculum that promotes respect, tolerance, diversity, inclusion, and wellbeing.
- Encouraging learners to share their views and recognise that they are entitled to have their own different beliefs which should not be used to influence others.
- Build learners' resilience to radicalisation by promoting fundamental British Values and enabling them to challenge extremist views. It is important to emphasise that we will not stop learners debating controversial issues.
- Provide a safe space in which our learners and staff can understand the risks associated with terrorism and develop the knowledge and skills to be able to challenge extremist arguments.

- Use teaching and assessment strategies that allow learners to explore controversial and current issues.
- Promote the online safety policy to ensure that our learners are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet by establishing appropriate levels of filtering when on our site or using the wider internet.

## LINKED POLICIES

- Safeguarding
- Prevent Risk Assessment
- Bullying & Harassment
- Health and Safety
- Equality & Diversity
- Whistleblowing

## RESPONSIBILITIES

All staff have a responsibility to:

- Report concerns or disclosures. If a Learner discloses opinions or describes events/activities or display risks and/or vulnerability indicators to a staff member that indicate potential concerns with regards to extremism and radicalisation, then the member of staff will report the details to the Prevent Lead (Safeguarding Champions) immediately.

The Managing Director has carried out Prevent Risk assessment and this is reviewed annually.

We recognise that the Coronavirus pandemic, particularly during the lockdown period(s) has led to the following:

1. 87% increase in social media usage during lockdown.
2. Rise of Conspiracy theories
3. Significant increase in terrorist & extremist group propaganda activity on social media
4. Black Life Matters protests have produced right wing extremist counter protests
5. Protests regarding individual rights and freedoms
6. Raised concerns regarding domestic abuse
7. Raised concerns regarding online grooming with groomers engaging with people on unmoderated Social Media platforms.
8. Challenges to people's mental health wellbeing

Staff have been made aware of these concerns and are encouraged to take a "professional curiosity" about the welfare of our learners and ask more proactive questions about their activities pre- and post-lockdown.

## OUR PREVENT LEAD (SAFEGUARDING CHAMPIONS)

Safeguarding Champion – Phillipa Walker - 01915878145

Safeguarding Champion – Jack Cooper – 01913804544

## STAFF DEVELOPMENT

- All staff complete mandatory online prevent training as part of their induction.
- Staff receive additional face to face training through attendance at external training.
- Refresher training for all staff is mandatory every 3 years.

- All staff will receive updates via email, bulletins, and monthly meetings including updates from the local safeguarding leads.
- Designated Safeguarding Champions will hold or be working towards a Level 3 certificate in Safeguarding & Prevent, attending specialist training as required for this role.

## REPORTING & REFERRALS

### Confidentiality

Promises of confidentiality **should not** be given to learners as concerns and disclosures may be referred to external agencies.

### Referrals

1. The staff member records their concerns or details of the disclosure including supporting information using the Safeguarding Concern / Disclosure Form
2. The form should be sent to the Prevent Lead (Safeguarding Champion).
3. Alternatively, the member of staff may contact the PREVENT Lead by telephone and report their concerns. The Prevent Lead completes the Safeguarding Concern / Disclosure Form based on the information provided.
4. The Prevent Lead, without delay, will undertake an investigation and decide on the appropriate action. This may include:
  - Child Protection Referral
  - Referral to the Police
  - Referral to Channel
  - Signposting to an external source of support
  - No escalation action but monitor the incident, disclosure, or concern
5. The outcome decision lies with the Prevent Lead based on the facts presented and Legislative requirements.
6. The Prevent Lead will record any action required and undertaken on the referral document.
7. The Prevent Lead will maintain all Safeguarding Reports in a designated secure area with restricted access

## WHISTLEBLOWING

TACS has arrangements in place for staff to make "protected disclosures" (or whistle blowing). These are set out in the Whistleblowing Policy which is discussed and issued to individuals on appointment to the company. Staff should report concerns in confidence to their line manager. Where a member of staff is not satisfied with the explanation given, they can take it up with the appropriate organisation or body such as the Police or Social Services. Where an incident needs to be disclosed in respect of a learner's welfare, or extremism and radicalisation concerns it should be reported to one of the designated contacts for implementing the TACS Prevent policy.

This policy is reviewed annually.

Approved on: 17/11/2021

Approved by: Daniel Cooper, Managing Director

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D Cooper', written over a horizontal line.