

Prevent Policy

Our Prevent policy aims to:

- ensure all staff understand the risks of radicalisation within our college and how this risk may change from time to time.
- ensure staff are aware of the Prevent Strategy and are able to protect people who are vulnerable or may be at risk of being radicalised.

Definition

For the purposes of this policy the definition of radical or extreme ideology is “a set of ideas which could justify vilification or violence against individuals, groups or self”.

Principles

The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act (July 2015) requires schools to "have due regard, in the exercise of their functions, to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism". This is known as the 'Prevent Duty'. This policy has therefore been developed in accordance with the principles established by the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act July (2015) and also our responsibilities with regard to the Prevent Strategy and the Home Office 'Prevent Duty Guidance: for Scotland'

This policy should be read in conjunction with the college's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policies and Prevent Duty should be seen as part of our existing safeguarding framework.

Child Protection Coordinator

Lauren Davis: Student Welfare and Experience Manager (Designated Safeguarding Lead)
Claire Hunter: Principal (Specialist Training)

Staff Training

In order to fulfil the requirements of the Prevent Duty the college will:

- Ensure staff are trained to be vigilant in spotting signs of extremist views and behaviours and report anything which may suggest a learner, another staff member or a visitor is expressing opinions which may cause concern. Staff should follow the usual reporting procedures as for any other safeguarding concern as laid out in the college's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policies.
- Ensure staff understand the importance of monitoring learner absences and promptly address concerns about irregular absence with parents and / or carers, or other stakeholders (e.g. ETOs).
- Ensure staff are aware of how to identify and respond to risks from extreme or radical views.

Curriculum

Basil Paterson ensures its learners are offered a broad and balanced curriculum that aims to prepare them for life, encouraging them to be inquisitive learners who are enriched, understand and become tolerant of difference and diversity, whilst also ensuring that they thrive, feel valued and are not marginalized.

Classroom practices include:

- developing questioning techniques to open up safe debate;
- building confidence to promote honesty about a plurality of views;
- ensuring freedom of expression and freedom from threat;
- debating fundamental moral and human rights principles;
- promoting open respectful dialogue;
- affirming multiple identities;
- providing opportunities for learners to build resilience to extremism and enabling them to develop a positive sense of identity through the development of critical thinking skills.

Basil Paterson values freedom of speech and the expression of beliefs / ideology as fundamental rights underpinning society's values. Learners regularly participate in discussion, with speaking and listening being embedded in all subjects. Learners and teachers speak freely and voice their opinions. However, there is an understanding that freedom comes with responsibility and free speech that is designed to manipulate the vulnerable or that leads to violence and harm of others goes against the moral principles in which freedom of speech is valued.

Curriculum content includes:

- promoting knowledge, skills and understanding to build the resilience of learners
- exploring controversial issues
- recognising local needs
- challenging extremist narratives
- promoting universal rights
- promoting critical analysis promoting pro-social values

Vulnerability to radicalisation or extreme view points from the internet

The college recognises its duty to protect our learners from indoctrination into any form of extreme ideology which may lead to the harm of self or others. This is particularly important because of the electronic information available through the internet.

The college will therefore aim to do the following:

- Educate learners on the appropriate use of social media and the dangers of downloading and sharing inappropriate material including that which is illegal under the Counter Terrorism Act.
- Ensure that learners are unable to access any inappropriate internet sites whilst using the college computers / laptops through the use of appropriate filtering, firewalls and security settings.
- Educate learners through lessons on the concepts of radicalisation and extreme

ideology.

- Inform learners on the importance of Internet Safety

Visitors to the College

In order to safeguard learners from visitors to the college who may have extreme or radical views the college will:

- Ensure all visitors to the college are carefully vetted and take immediate action if any individual or group is perceived to be attempting to influence members of the college community, either physically or electronically.

Relevant Legislation and Guidance

The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act (2015)
'Prevent Duty Guidance: for Scotland' (2015)

Other Relevant Policies

Attendance Policy
E-Safety Policy
Health and Wellbeing Policy
Safeguarding Policy
Child Protection Policy