

Prevent Duty Policy

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| Person Responsible | Principal |
| Linked policies | Safeguarding and Welfare policy Anti-bullying policy |
| Chapter in OU Operations Manual | 10 |
| Mapping to Quality Code | |

10 Prevent Duty Policy

10.1 Policy Statement

- 10.1.1 This policy is prepared using the Revised Prevent Duty Guidance for Scotland https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/445978/3799_Revised_Prevent_Duty_Guidance_Scotland_V2.pdf
- 10.1.2 Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (the Act) places a duty on certain bodies, listed in Schedule 6 to the Act, to have, in the exercise of their functions, “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”.
- 10.1.3 This duty is known as the Prevent duty. It applies to a wide range of bodies including Higher Education Providers.

10.2 Radicalism & Extremism

- 10.2.1 Radicalism refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism. Protecting students from the risk of radicalisation is seen as part of Ballet West’s wider safeguarding duties, and is similar in nature to protecting students from other forms of harm and abuse, as detailed in the Safeguarding and Welfare Policy.
- 10.2.2 During the process of radicalisation, it is possible to intervene to prevent vulnerable people being radicalised. There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to an extremist ideology. It can happen in many different ways and settings.
- 10.2.3 Specific background factors may contribute to vulnerability which are often combined with specific influences such as family, friends or online, and with specific needs for which an extremist or terrorist group may appear to provide an answer.
- 10.2.4 The internet and the use of social media in particular has become a major factor in the radicalisation of young people.
- 10.2.5 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. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas. Such views obviously contravene the Ballet West Equality and Diversity Policy.

10.3 Constant Practice and Procedure

- 10.3.1 At Ballet West it is essential that staff are able to identify students who may be vulnerable to radicalisation, and know what to do when they are identified. Protecting students from the risk of radicalisation should be seen as part of Ballet West’s wider safeguarding duties, and is similar in nature to protecting children from other harms (e.g. drugs, gangs, violence, sexual exploitation).
- 10.3.2 We can also build students’ resilience to radicalisation by promoting fundamental British values and enabling them to challenge extremist views. All staff are instructed to

challenge extremist and radical views.

- 10.3.3 It is important to emphasise that the Prevent duty is not intended to stop students debating controversial issues, or examining those issues in their work as reflective practitioners. On the contrary, we will always provide a safe space in which students and staff can critically examine the issues associated with terrorism and develop the knowledge and skills to be able to challenge extremist arguments.

10.4 Risk Assessment

- 10.4.1 All the school staff are expected to assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorism, including support for extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology.
- 10.4.2 This means being able to demonstrate both a general understanding of the risks affecting young people in the area and a specific understanding of how to identify individual students who may be at risk of radicalisation and what to do to support them.
- 10.4.3 As with managing other safeguarding risks, staff should be alert to changes in student's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection.
- 10.4.4 Staff should use their professional judgement in identifying students who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately.

10.5 Procedure for reporting concerns

- 10.5.1 If a member of staff or student has a concern about a particular student they should follow the school's normal safeguarding and equality procedures, including discussing with the school's principal, who will, where deemed necessary, take further action.
- 10.5.2 Staff can also contact the local police force or dial 101 (the non-emergency number). They can talk in confidence about your concerns and help gain access to support and advice.