

The Prevent Duty

Introduction

The Counter Terrorism and Security Act (2015) places a Prevent Duty on specified authorities to have 'due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism'. This 'Prevent Duty' (Note 1) is referred to in the Keeping Children Safe in Education (July 2015 document (Note 2)). As The Ladies' College adheres to the Safeguarding requirements for English schools, it is important that there is an awareness of the 'Prevent Duty'.

Colleagues should be aware of their 'Prevent Duties' to identify children who may be at risk of being subject to radicalisation or being drawn into terrorism / extremist activity. This includes ensuring any visitors and speakers are suitably vetted and supervised. Any concerns should be passed onto the Designated Senior Person. 'Resilience to radicalisation' should be built through the curriculum and assemblies through the promotion of democracy, diversity, mutual respect and managing debate of contentious issues.

The Designated Senior Person oversees and coordinates the College's implementation of the Prevent Duty.

Key Prevent Duties:

Risk Assessment

The general level of risk of students being subject to radicalisation or being drawn into terrorism/extremist activity is low due to the geographical location and the student intake. Indicators of vulnerability are listed in Annex B of the 'Prevent within Schools' toolkit (Note 3).

Policies and Procedures

There is a clear safeguarding policy. This requires colleagues to be alert to the possibility of radicalisation and extremism. Colleagues should be able to identify children at risk and protect them. If there is a concern with regards a student, advice will be sought from the Guernsey police referral and Assessment and Intervention Team.

All colleagues should be mindful of their responsibilities to identify and report any suspected cases of radicalisation to the Designated Senior Person. In addition colleagues should ensure that students are protected from extremist material in the classroom, on the internet and that any visiting speakers are vetted.

The College is aware of its duty to forbid political indoctrination and secure a balanced presentation of political issues. All staff are to ensure that visiting speakers, whether invited by staff or pupils, are suitably supervised.

Building Resilience to Radicalisation

The promotion of the College values plays a central role in creating a climate that is resilient to radicalisation. The PSHE course includes character development and teaches students to manage risk, resist pressure, make safer choices and seek help if necessary. Topics such as democracy, diversity and mutual respect are promoted through both assemblies and the curriculum.

IT Policies and Training

Appropriate filters are in place to protect children from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in school. The ICT Acceptable User Policy prohibits the access of terrorist and extremist material.

Students and parents are given training to stay safe online, both in school and outside of school.

Teaching staff are aware of the risks posed by online activity of extremist and terrorist groups.

Any suspicious online activity will be reported to www.gov.uk/report-terrorism.

Working in Partnership

The Ladies' College will liaise with the Assessment and Intervention Team and the Guernsey Police with regards any concerns over radicalisation or extremism.

Notes

(1) The Prevent Duty

- (DfE guidance for schools to “prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”)
- https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/439598/prevent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf (June 2015)

(2) Keeping Children Safe in Education (statutory guidance for schools and colleges)

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2> (July 2015)

(3) Prevent within Schools

- <http://schools.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/sites/schools/files/folders/folders/documents/safeguarding/Educationtoolkit.pdf>
- **Channel Online Awareness course** (part of the Prevent strategy to identify individuals at risk)
http://course.ncalt.com/Channel_General_Awareness/01/resources/docs/Channel_Guidance_for_Channel_Panel_Members.pdf

Extremism

The Government's Prevent Strategy defines extremism as: “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”.