**Prevent Policy**

**Introduction and Context**

Prevent is part of a Government initiative to develop a robust counter terrorism programme – CONTEST. The UK faces a range of terrorist threats. All the terrorist groups who pose a threat to us seek to radicalise and recruit people to their cause. The Prevent strategy seeks to:

* Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and aspects of extremism, and the threat we face from those who promote these views
* Provide practical help 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 needs to be addressed, including education, criminal justice, faith, charities, the internet and health

A system of threat level has been created which represents the likelihood of an attack in the near future. The five levels are:

Critical- an attack is expected imminently

Severe – an attack is highly likely

Substantial – an attack is a strong possibility

Moderate – an attack is possible but not likely

Low – an attack is unlikely

The current threat level from international terrorism in the UK and is substantial which means that a terrorist attack is a strong possibility.

Further Education colleges and Private Training Providers are major education and training providers for the 16 – 25 year age group, particularly young people from ethnically diverse, and socially and economically disadvantaged areas. The age and profile of our students make it crucial to be involved in the Prevent strategy. FE providers have a part to play in fostering shared values and promoting cohesion. FE providers should focus on the risks of violent extremism, which represents the greatest threat at national level, while recognising that other forms of violence and extremism can and do manifest themselves within learning environments and other training settings. This strategy has five key objectives:

1. To promote and reinforce shared values; to create space for free and open debate; and to listen and support the learner voice.
2. To break down segregation among different student communities including by supporting inter-faith and inter-cultural dialogue and understanding, and to engage all students in playing a full and active role in wider engagement in society
3. To ensure student safety and that the Education and Skills Training & Development is free from bullying, harassment and discrimination
4. To provide support for students who may be at risk and appropriate sources of advice and guidance
5. To ensure that students and staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities in preventing violent extremism.

In order to achieve these objectives the strategy will concentrate on four areas;

**Leadership and Values**

To provide an ethos which upholds core values of shared responsibility and wellbeing for all students, staff and visitors and promotes respect, equality and diversity and understanding. This will be achieved through:

* Promoting core values of respect, equality and diversity, democratic society, learner voice and participation
* Building staff and student understanding of the issues and confidence to deal with them
* Deepening engagement with local communities
* Actively working with local schools, local authorities, police and other agencies
* Value the importance of ensuring all staff are appropriately trained as detailed in their contract of employment

**Teaching and Learning**

To provide a curriculum which promotes knowledge, skills and understanding to build the resilience of students, by undermining extremist ideology and supporting the learner voice. This will be achieved through:

* Embedding equality, diversity and inclusion, wellbeing and community cohesion
* Promoting wider skill development such as social and emotional aspects of learning
* A curriculum adapted to recognise local needs, challenge extremist narratives and promote universal rights through our’ Engaging young people ,Building Resilience ‘Project funded by the Home Office.
* Encouraging active citizenship/participation and learner voice.

**Student Support**

To ensure that staff are confident to take preventative and responsive steps working with partner professionals, families and communities. This will be achieved through:

* Establishing strong and effective student support services
* Listening to what is happening in Education and Skills Training & Development and the community
* Implementing anti-bullying strategies and challenging discriminatory behaviour
* Helping students and staff know how to access support across Education and Skills Training & Development and or through community partners
* Supporting at risk students through safeguarding and crime prevention processes
* Focussing on narrowing the attainment gap for all students
* Provide training for all students throughout their course, including holding monthly discussions during reviews with the assessor.

**Managing Risks and Responding to Events**

To ensure that Education and Skills Training & Development monitors risks and is ready to deal appropriately with issues which arise. It will do this through:

* Understanding the nature of the threat from violent extremism and how this may impact directly or indirectly on Education and Skills Training & Development
* Understanding and managing potential risks within Education and Skills Training & Development and from external influences
* Responding appropriately to events in local, national or international news that may impact on students and communities and encouraging learners to discuss these issues using the forums
* Ensuring measures are in place to minimise the potential for acts of violent extremist within Education and Skills Training & Development i.e.’ Engaging Young People, Building Resilience ‘Prevent’ funded Project.
* Ensuring plans are in place to respond appropriately to a threat or incident within Education and Skills Training & Development
* Developing effective ICT security and responsible user policies

Education and Skills ensure that all staff have full training on Prevent, and that it is discussed during monthly reviews with the learners. Employers are also given details and links to training for their staff where they do not have training currently in place. This is detailed in the employer handbook.

Managing Directors Steve Martin & James hart

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