



# Martyn's Law Briefing Note

October 2025



HELEN HOGAN:  
SAFEGUARDING  
MATTERS

# What Is Martyn's Law?

The [Terrorism \(Protection of Premises\) Act 2025](#) (the act) became law on 3 April 2025. It is commonly known as Martyn's Law, and is named in honour of Martyn Hett, one of the 22 people killed in the 2017 Manchester Arena terrorist attack. Martyn's mother, Figen Murray, campaigned over many years for a new law to better protect the public in the event of a terror attack.

The [2023 counter terrorism strategy, CONTEST](#) summarises the current threat facing the UK as 'enduring and evolving', with a domestic threat that 'is less predictable and harder to detect and investigate'. Terrorists have targeted a wide range of people and places in recent years. It is not always possible to predict where in the UK an attack might happen, or the type of premises or events that could be impacted – either directly (as the target of an attack) or indirectly (by being located near to the target of an attack).

While the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act is Home Office led, the Department for Education (DfE) have supported the introduction of the act.

## What's New as of 10 October 2025?

The Department for Education and Home Office have jointly confirmed:

- Implementation is underway, with a 24-month preparation period before enforcement begins (expected by April 2027).
- Education settings are in scope, including:
  - Maintained schools
  - Academies and MATs
  - Independent schools
  - FE colleges and training providers

## Two tiers of duty apply based on size and risk:

- Standard Duty: for premises with 200–799 people present
- Enhanced Duty: for premises with 800+ people present

## What Schools Must Do (During the Implementation Phase)

### Understand Your Tier

- Count the number of people reasonably expected on site at one time (pupils, staff, visitors).

- Most secondary schools and large primaries will fall under Standard Duty.

## Begin Planning

Conduct a risk assessment of your site's vulnerability to terrorist threats. Review or develop plans for:

- Evacuation
- Lockdown
- Invacuation (sheltering in place)
- Communication protocols

## Train Staff

Ensure staff are aware of emergency procedures. Consider free resources such as:

- ACT Awareness e-learning
- SCaN (See, Check and Notify) training

## Record and Review

- Keep a record of planning, training, and drills.
- Review procedures annually or after any incident.

## What This Is Not

- Martyn's Law does not require additional expectation beyond a secure plan of lockdown (evacuation/invacuation).
- It is about proportionate preparedness, not creating fear.

Link to online document:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/martyns-law-for-education-settings>

At HH:SM I will continue to keep you up to date with the latest expectations and how you can ensure that you are prepared for this expectation over the next 24 months.