

## Prevent Strategy

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 address the local issues both current and potential within the college’s community. Currently there is increased heightening tension in the community, in relation to:

- Extreme right wing views that are being distributed informally within the community.
- Increased risk of recruitment and grooming of young people to extreme radical groups.
- Potential risk of destabilisation of the local community through distribution of online and marketing information linked to ongoing international issues.

The College has a legal responsibility to forbid the promotion of partisan political views in the teaching of any subject in the college and must take such steps as are reasonably practicable to secure that where political issues are brought to the attention of students they are offered a balanced presentation of opposing views. Promotion of any organisations linked to violent extremism is contrary to the values of the college and could constitute misconduct.

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 College 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

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As stated in College’s strategic plan “ we expect the highest standards of professional conduct and attitude” and “the college are committed to respond with pace to changes both locally and nationally”.

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, PREVENT and other agencies

### Teaching and Learning

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

- Encouraging active citizenship and learner voice
- Embedding equality, diversity and inclusion, wellbeing and community cohesion through teaching and learning and tutorials
- Promoting wider skill development such as social and emotional aspects of learning
- Teaching and learning strategies which explore controversial issues in a way which promotes critical analysis and pro social values
- Use of external programmes or groups to support learning while ensuring that the input supports college goals and values.

### 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 the College and the community
- Implementing anti-bullying strategies and challenging discriminatory behaviour
- Helping students and staff know how to access support in College and or through community partners
- Supporting problem solving and repair of harm
- Supporting at risk students through safeguarding and crime prevention processes
- Focussing on narrowing the attainment gap for all students

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## Managing Risks and Responding to Events

To ensure that the College 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 the College
- Understanding and managing potential risks within the College and from external influences
- Responding appropriately to events in local, national or international news that may impact on students and communities
- Ensuring measures are in place to minimise the potential for acts of violent extremist within the College
- Ensuring plans are in place to respond appropriately to a threat or incident within the College
- Developing effective ICT security and e-safety and to embed responsible user policies in relation to ICT

An action plan has been prepared (appendix 1) which will be reviewed by the Achievement and Standards Committee.

College staff should be aware of potential activities and signs of radicalisation and have the confidence to report their concerns to their line manager.

- 1) The College will also promote the ethos of the 'Prevent' agenda by encouraging free and open debate but challenging extreme views. It will encourage through its classroom practice, theme weeks and induction activities, a belief in Equality of Opportunity and the Celebration of Diversity.
- 2) The College will not host or allow its premises to be used by extreme groups and will seek to prevent the distribution of extreme literature.
- 3) The College has a legal responsibility to forbid the promotion of partisan political views in the teaching of any subject in the college and must take such steps as are reasonably practicable to secure that where political issues are brought to the attention of students they are offered a balanced presentation of opposing views. Promotion of any organisations linked to violent extremism is contrary to the values of the college and could constitute misconduct.
- 4) The College will provide appropriate support through its own staff or by referral to external agencies, for any student in danger of radicalisation.

Any concerns should be recorded in writing by the line manager and reported to the Head of Student Services and/or the Personnel Manager. They will liaise with the

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local PREVENT team and with the College contact at Hanley Police Station following the Stoke-on-Trent joint protocol.

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