

PREVENT POLICY

Audience:	Student
Requirement:	Essential
Policy Owner:	Director of Student Experience & Transition
Review Delegation:	Corporation
Review Cycle:	Annual
Last Review:	August 2023
Due for Review:	July 2024

SOUTH HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE GROUP PREVENT POLICY

1.0 Statement of Principles

- 1.1. All schools and colleges are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter – terrorism and security Act 2015 in the exercise of their functions to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. This duty is known as the Prevent duty.
- 1.2. When operating this policy, South Hampshire College group (SHCG) uses the following accepted Governmental definition of extremism which 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; and/or calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas’.

2.0 Scope

The Prevent duty should be seen as part of schools’ and colleges’ wider safeguarding obligations.

Safeguarding is everybody’s responsibility and, as such, this Prevent policy applies to:

- All staff, governors, visitors, volunteers and subcontractors working with the SHCG.
- All students, including full- time, part-time, HE, apprentices, students who study online or at any provider within our subcontracting network and those on work placement

Designated safeguarding leads and other senior leaders should familiarise themselves with the revised Prevent duty guidance: for England and Wales, especially paragraphs 57-76, which are specifically concerned with schools (and also covers childcare).

3.0 Detail

3.1 Principles of the policy

Safeguarding. Preventing vulnerable individuals from being drawn into terrorism is a safeguarding issue and College policies and procedures in place to help safeguard staff and students should consider the Prevent requirements.

Education. Students will encounter a variety of learning programmes and tutorials that explore the safeguarding issues and enable students to become educated against the threats and harm of extremism and the threats of being drawn into terrorism.

Guest Speakers. We will pay particular attention to guest speakers and events and ensure that materials and resources do not encourage or promote radicalisation or extremism. All guest speakers will be supervised during their delivery. *For further information please refer to South Hampshire College Group External Speaker Policy.

Staff awareness. Staff should be made aware of the Prevent strategy and must undergo prevent training on a minimum of an annual basis. Staff will understand their duties with regards to raising concerns and how young people can be further supported.

Governing Body. The Governing Body of SHCG will undertake appropriate training in their responsibilities as Governors, including their statutory safeguarding and Prevent duties. They will challenge the College group's executive and senior leadership teams on the delivery of this policy and monitor its effectiveness.

Accountability. Student support will maintain a risk register and will monitor the institutional risk of students being drawn into terrorism.

Celebrating diversity. The culturally diverse nature of the college group must be actively celebrated and promoted to counter the threat of radicalisation from external influences

Information sharing. Some internal and external information sharing will be necessary but only under appropriately controlled conditions. This does not amount to an agreement to share personal data on anything other than a need based and case by case basis.

Social media. Social media is a vehicle by which vulnerable individuals are particularly susceptible to radicalisation. As a college social media and internet usage from our own devices is monitored and a strict firewall is in place. An alert system operates for any web site or key words used that may cause potential risk or harm to a student.

Website Filtering. The college group will block access to specific websites, network resources and IP addresses that provide or facilitate access to extremism materials . All students and staff are required to have an understanding of our college group Acceptable Use of IT Policy.

3.2. Definitions

Keeping children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2022 refers to the following definitions:

Extremism is the vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. This also includes calling for the death of members of the armed forces.

Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

Terrorism an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people; causes serious damage to property; or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause.

3.3. SHCG approach

SHCG does not tolerate extremist views of any kind whether from internal sources; students, staff or governors, or external sources; college community, external agencies or individuals.

Students see our college as a safe place, free from harm or risk of harm and where necessary we will action referrals or processes to ensure the college remains a safe place for all.

As a college group, we recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes for students and so should be addressed as a safeguarding concern as set out in this policy. We also recognise that if we fail to challenge extremist views, we are failing to protect our students.

Therefore, as a college group we will provide a broad and balanced tutorial programme, delivered by staff or external agencies so that our students understand and become tolerant of difference and diversity. We will ensure that they feel valued and not marginalized. We will strive to ensure our students recognise risk and build resilience to manage any such risk themselves where appropriate to their age and ability but also to help them develop the critical thinking skills needed to engage in informed debate.

Any prejudice, discrimination or extremist views, including derogatory language, displayed by students or staff will always be challenged and where appropriate dealt with in accordance with our student behaviour management policy or through our fitness to study policy, with consideration of the implementation of the college group's Prevent Risk Assessment (*please refer to Appendix A).

As part of wider safeguarding responsibilities, College staff will be alert to:

- The importance of promoting British Values throughout the curriculum.
- Disclosures by students, of their exposure to the extremist actions, views or materials of others outside, such as in their homes or community groups, especially where students have not actively sought these out.
- Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images
- Students accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites
- Parental reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance
- Partner colleges, local authority services, and police reports of issues affecting students in other colleges or settings
- Students voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives
- Use of extremist or 'hate' terms to exclude others or incite violence
- Intolerance of difference, whether secular or religious or, in line with our Equality & Diversity, views based on, but not exclusive to, gender, disability, homophobia, race, colour or culture
- Attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others
- Anti-Western or Anti-British views
- Emerging groups such as INCELS or MUUR

3.4. Links to other agencies

SHCG will closely follow any locally agreed procedure as set out by Local Authority and/or Hampshire Safeguarding Children's Board's, Prevent Co-ordinator, police, social care and any other agency to safeguard and support individuals vulnerable to extremism and radicalisation.

We will actively engage with the police, and regional DfE Further Education Prevent Co-coordinators.

As a college we reserve the right to initiate our own internal policies in light of a safeguarding concern that may put the student, other students, or staff at risk of harm.

3.5. Raising Concerns

Where there are concerns of terrorism, extremism or radicalisation, students and staff will report them to the Designated Safeguarding Lead/ Deputy Designated safeguarding lead or Vice Principal. The procedure for reporting and referring safeguarding concerns will apply unless the threat is immediate and life threatening in which case the police will be contacted. All information regarding concerns will be fed immediately through the police, social care, prevent and any other agency that the college group deem appropriate to contact. At this stage, consideration will be taken as to whether the student will remain at home and access to all college group resources restricted, until the college group seek further clarification from all agencies involved.

The college group will inform the DFE prevent coordinator immediately and seek support from the coordinator regarding managing risk.

The college group will engage actively with the police and the Channel process working with the counter terrorism police to ensure that SHCG remains a safe place.

Depending on feedback and intelligence from all agencies involved the college group may instigate the fitness to study policy at any of the 3 stages or the Behaviour Management policy. The college group reserve the right to instigate these policies based on information the college group deem appropriate. This will be communicated to all parties, please refer to the relevant policies as required. However, SHCG will take guidance from the Police/Prevent in planning the date of this meeting as the outcome of their investigations will be vital in the preparation of this meeting.

The college operates a lockdown (Run, Hide, Tell) procedure in the event of safeguarding incident, where there is immediate risk of harm, this may include a Prevent related incident. All staff and students are made aware of this procedure at the beginning of an academic year, with regular practice testing. *For further information please refer to our Lockdown Procedure/Health & Safety Policy.

External Contacts

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Prevent Regional HE/FE Co-ordinator – South East of England and West Midlands

Department for Education

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National police Prevent advice line 0800 011 3764

Anti-terrorism hotline 0800 789321