

PREVENT STRATEGY 2025

WSET School London



Purpose

This document provides knowledge and procedures to safeguard students and staff from radicalisation and extremist influences, in line with the **Prevent Duty** under the **Counterterrorism and Security Act 2015**.

It reflects WSET School's commitment to creating a safe, inclusive learning environment.

What is the Prevent Duty?

The Prevent Duty requires all education providers to “**have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism**”. It is part of the UK's **CONTEST strategy**, which includes:

- **Prevent:** Stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.
- **Pursue:** Disrupt terrorist activity.
- **Protect:** Strengthen protection against attacks.
- **Prepare:** Minimise impact of attacks.

The WSET School London PREVENT Strategy

The WSET School London Prevent Action Plan has seven key themes, with differing outcomes:

a) **Promote a Safe and Inclusive Environment**

Goal: Foster an atmosphere where students feel valued, included, and safe.

Actions:

- Create Platforms for open dialogue and understanding across different groups
- Promote diversity and respect for all cultural and religious backgrounds.
- Implement educational programs that challenge harmful stereotypes and misinformation.
- Encourage positive role models within the school and workplace.

b) **Recognise Early Warning Signs**

Goal: Identify early signs of vulnerability, social withdrawal, or troubling behaviours radicalisation, or extremism.

Actions:

- Train staff and educators to recognize behavioural signs like sudden isolation, expressions of hostility, or fascination with violent ideologies that might signal radicalisation or extremism.
- Encourage the use of a confidential reporting system where students and staff can share concerns discreetly.

c) **Engage with Vulnerable Individuals**

Goal: Provide guidance and support to students who may feel disconnected or vulnerable.

Actions:

- Offer a safe space to vulnerable individuals where they will feel comfortable to discuss their challenges. (e.g. those experiencing isolation, trauma, or personal crisis)
- Offer counseling, mentoring and social support networks to at-risk individuals or signpost to suitable organisations.

d) Vigilantly Monitor Risks

Goal: Keep a watchful eye on the school climate and any emerging risks.

Action:

- Conduct surveys or anonymous feedback sessions to understand student concerns or tensions.
- Perform risk assessments to identify potential threats based on changing social, political, or economic circumstances.
- Monitor social interactions and online behavior (within ethical guidelines) to be aware of any signs of bullying, exclusion, or extremist influences.

e) Educate and Raise Awareness

Goal: Strengthen students' ability to think critically and resist harmful influences.

Action:

- Promote diversity and inclusion to establish initiatives and increase awareness of different cultures, ideologies, and religions, fostering respect and understanding.
- Highlight the importance of pluralism, tolerance, and peaceful co-existence through signposts on emotional resilience, guiding students how to manage conflict and stress.

f) Network with Key Stakeholders

Goal: Build a collaborative support system for students, educators and staff.

Action:

- Provide resources on recognising signs of radicalisation and supporting those at-risk.

g) Train and Educate Regularly

Goal: Equip all school staff with the knowledge to recognise and respond to radicalisation.

Action:

- Provide ongoing training on identifying early warning signs, de-escalation techniques, and engaging with students sensitively.

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- Update training regularly to reflect new risks, especially related to online extremism and social media influences.

This **PREVENT** strategy helps the school can proactively identify and support vulnerable students, build a safe and inclusive culture, and engage families and the community to create a robust protective environment.

Governance Framework

Key Roles:

- **Principal:** Oversees strategy implementation and ensures compliance.
- **Prevent Lead:** (Student Services Manager) Manages daily activities, risk assessments, and staff training.
- **Awareness:** Student Services and Education Team

Implementation

- **Policy Development:** Create clear policies on safeguarding and risk prevention.
- **Training:** Equip staff with knowledge to identify and address risks.
- **Engagement:** Work with students, educators, and the community to foster awareness and cooperation.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Regularly review incidents and progress using metrics like reduced incidents and staff/student feedback.
- Conduct termly reports and reviews by the safeguarding team.

Useful Links & Resources

Act Early (Action Counters Terrorism)

A website created by Counter Terrorism Police which hosts resources, advice and guidance on protecting others from radicalisation: <https://actearly.uk/>

Educate Against Hate

This website gives parents, teachers and school leaders practical advice on protecting children from extremism and radicalisation: <https://www.educateagainsthate.com/>

Let's Talk About It

This website has been created to provide a greater understanding of the support Prevent can offer and to challenge division and negativity in our communities through positive and effective attitude changes. By highlighting the issues and initiating discussions around the potential threats we face as a community, we can create greater understanding and wider awareness:

www.ltai.info

Internet Matters

This website has lots of information, advice and resources which can be used to help children stay safe online: www.internetmatters.org

Channel Awareness Training

www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/channel_awareness/01-welcome.html

Prevent E Learning

<https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/edu/screen1.html>