

Prevent Policy

Issue 2

October 2016

Summary of Policy:

This policy sets out the College's strategy to dealing with its duties under the Prevent guidance (March 2015). As such it should be considered as part of the suite of safeguarding policies in operation.

Senior Manager Responsible for Policy:

Director of Learning Development

Contents

Section

1	General Policy Statement
2	The Designated Staff with Responsibility for Prevent
3	Identification and Dealing with Concerns
4	Control of this Document
Annex 1	Communication Process for Safeguarding (Prevent) Concerns
Annex 2	Names and Contact Details of Designated Governor and Staff (confirmed annually)

1.0 STATEMENT OF POLICY AND COMMITMENT

Tyne Metropolitan College has a statutory duty under Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. The purpose of this policy is to clearly set out how the College can effectively meet this duty. The Prevent Strategy is part of the Government’s overall counter-terrorism strategy, known as CONTEST. The aim of Prevent specifically is to stop people becoming drawn into terrorism. The three specific strategic objectives under Prevent are:

- Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it
- Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support
- Work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation that we need to address

(Prevent Duty Guidance in England and Wales March 2015)

Terrorist groups will often draw on extremist ideology and recruit from individuals who are connected to extremist organisations. The Government defines extremism as:

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

National Context

In terms of the national context the most significant threat is currently Al Qa’ida and associated groups, including Islamic State (ISI). However, the Government also acknowledges that terrorists associated with the far right also pose an ongoing security threat. The Prevent Strategy seeks to deal with both terrorism and non-violent extremist groups, which whilst legal, can create an atmosphere in which terrorism can flourish.

Local perspective

North Tyneside has a BME population of just under 4%, which is lower than the regional average of 4.5% and considerably lower than the national average of just under 12%. Minority faiths are estimated to account for 1.5% of the borough’s population. Whilst these figures are low they are expected to rise over the next few years. Given such a low proportion of BME and minority faith groups within the borough’s population it is easy to assume that North Tyneside is not an area of high risk in terms of the Prevent agenda. In one sense this is true and the legislation stresses the need for a “proportionate and risk-based approach” when implementing the policy. However, no area or institution can be considered risk free and as such the College cannot be complacent in terms of implementing its Prevent duties. It is also important to consider the likelihood within the region for the prevalence of far right extremism and extreme right wing ideologies. It should also be noted that operating in an area with very small BME numbers can itself make it harder to implement Prevent in that there is a lack of support infrastructures available at the local level.

The College regards Prevent as an important element within its existing safeguarding policies and processes. The ethos of Prevent is focused on safeguarding students and fostering a culture of open and inclusive practice, where issues can be raised and discussed within a safe environment. The Corporation Board is committed to ensuring that the College effectively implements the requirements of Prevent by:

- Ensuring there is a single point of contact for Prevent related issues and a network of support for staff
- Maintaining regular and effective links with the local Prevent Coordinator and Local Authority Prevent trainers
- Ensuring staff understand their safeguarding responsibilities under Prevent, including how to make a referral to the Channel team
- Ensuring all staff, including Senior Managers and Governors, receive awareness training on Prevent
- Ensuring there is effective oversight of Prevent incorporated within the College's Safeguarding Committee and associated reporting functions
- Providing staff with support and guidance on how to recognise potential signs that a learner may be becoming involved with extremist organisations
- Providing specific training to Pastoral teams, including training on how to develop "safe" debate spaces and how to respond to divergent and non-inclusive views from students
- Ensuring the promotion of British Values is securely embedded within tutorial programmes
- Ensuring IT policies are robust and can deal effectively with potential online risks from extremist organisations, through appropriate use of filtering
- Ensuring Prevent is fully considered within risk assessment processes, including when engaging visiting speakers
- Ensuring any sub-contract providers have appropriate policies in place to meet their duties under Prevent

2.0 DESIGNATED STAFF WITH LEAD RESPONSIBILITY FOR PREVENT

The designated senior member of staff with lead responsibility for safeguarding, including Prevent, is: **The Director of Learning Development, Tyne Metropolitan College, Battle Hill Drive, Wallsend, Tyne & Wear NE28 9NL**

This person is a senior member of the College management team. He/she has a key duty to take lead responsibility for raising awareness within the body of staff of issues relating to the welfare of all students, and the promotion of a safe environment for all students engaged in learning within the College.

He/she has received training in safeguarding issues and inter-agency working, as advised by the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). He/she should keep up to date with developments in Prevent related issues and maintain effective links with the local Prevent Coordinator.

The designated senior member of staff is responsible for:

- Overseeing the referral of any safeguarding cases that fall under the College's Prevent duties
- Providing advice and support to other staff on issues relating to Prevent
- Maintaining a proper record of any safeguarding referral, complaint or concern (even where that concern does not lead to a referral)
- Ensuring that students and other stakeholders within the College are aware of the College's Prevent duties
- Liaising with the LEA, local Prevent Coordinator, LSCB and other appropriate agencies
- Ensuring that staff receive basic training in Prevent issues and are aware of the College safeguarding procedures
- Providing termly updates on Prevent to the College's Safeguarding Committee
- Ensuring there is a whole college approach to implementation of the College's Prevent duties and that Prevent is considered within all relevant policies and processes

The designated senior member of staff will provide an annual report to the Corporation Board of the College setting out how the College has discharged its duties. This will be included within the annual Safeguarding Report.

Other Designated Staff Member

The other designated member of staff with responsibility for safeguarding issues is the Student Wellbeing Coordinator. She can be contacted by telephone by dialling 0191 2295000 (main switchboard) or writing to the College's registered office: Tyne Metropolitan College, Battle Hill Drive, Wallsend, Tyne & Wear, NE28 9NL.

The designated staff member will:

- Report to the senior member of staff with lead responsibility
- Know how to make an appropriate referral to Channel and local Prevent Coordinator
- Be available to provide advice and support to other staff on issues relating to Prevent
- Have particular responsibility to be available to listen to and provide support to individual students within college

Designated Governor

The designated member of the Corporation Board with responsibility for safeguarding (including Prevent) issues can be contacted via the Company Secretary, Tyne Metropolitan College, Battle Hill Drive, Wallsend, Tyne & Wear, NE28 9NL, or by telephone on 0191 2295000 (main switchboard).

The designated Governor is responsible for liaising with the Principal and senior staff member with lead responsibility over matters regarding safeguarding, including:

- Ensuring that the College has procedures and policies which are consistent with the Prevent Duty Guidance (2015)
- Ensuring that the Corporation Board considers the College policy on Safeguarding, including Prevent, each year
- Ensuring that each year the Corporation Board is informed of how the College and its staff have complied with the policy, including but not limited to a report on the training that staff have undertaken.

To assist in these duties, the designated Governor shall receive appropriate training as advised by the LSCB.

3.0 IDENTIFICATION OF CONCERNS

The following are a list of behaviours that **may** indicate an individual as at risk of radicalisation:

- Expressing opinions that indicate a support for terrorism or violence and / or for the leaders of terrorist organisations
- Possession of violent or extremist material either in hard copy or digital formats
- Attempts to access violent extremist websites and associated password protected chat rooms
- Possession of material relating to weapons and explosives
- Possession of material relating to military training skills and techniques (outside of British Armed forces recruitment / careers material)
- Social isolation from family, peers and social events, particularly if this is in conjunction with association with proscribed organisations or individuals known to hold extremist views

The above list is not exhaustive and it should be noted that the behaviours listed above are not in themselves indicators of criminality or criminal intent. Prevent is about looking for signs that an individual may be at risk and benefit from some supportive intervention. There is evidence that radicalisation can be linked to a crisis of identity and uncertainty about belonging, which may be triggered by experiences of victimisation, racialism or abuse, hence the importance of identifying students who may be vulnerable due to issues and challenges within their personal and home life.

Staff should not investigate concerns or allegations themselves, but should report them immediately to the designated person. Staff need to act without delay by speaking with the designated person. Referral should follow the College's existing safeguarding protocols.

4.0 CONTROL OF THIS DOCUMENT

The senior staff member with lead responsibility for safeguarding issues at the College will review this policy and its associated procedures for effectiveness and the need for change on an annual cycle. Recommendations for change will be made through the Safeguarding Committee to the Senior Leadership Team and then to the Corporation Board. The latest version of the document will be maintained on the College Toolkit and website.

Prepared by: **Director of Learning Development**

Tracking and validation: **Executive Officer**

Corporation Board **D.W. Midgley**

Approved: **Signed:**

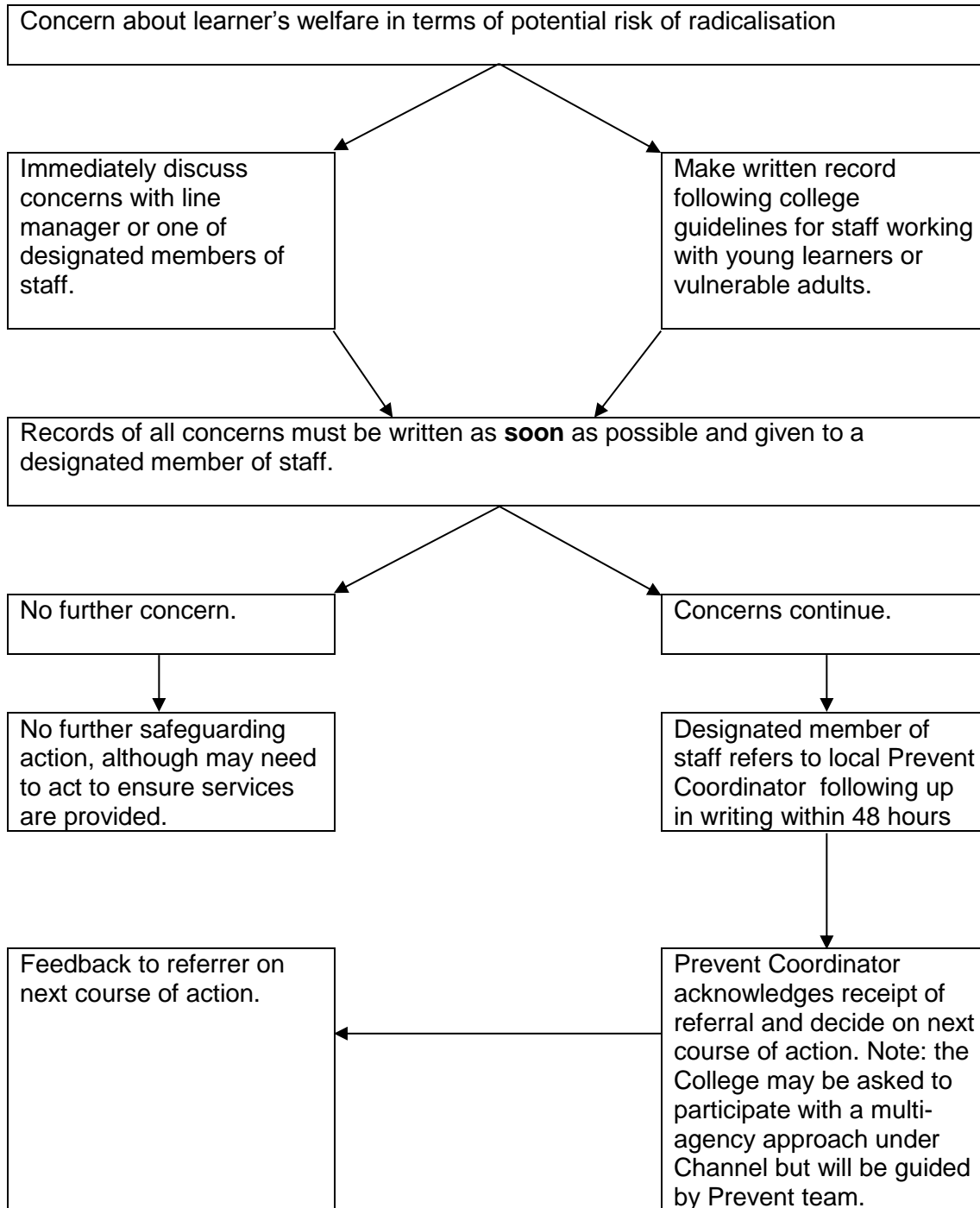
12 October 2016

Date:

October 2017

To be reviewed: **Date:**

Communication process for Prevent concerns



Designated senior member of staff with lead responsibility for Prevent: Director of Learning Development, Tyne Metropolitan College, Battle Hill Drive, Wallsend, NE28 9NL

Designated Governor: Contact via: Company Secretary, Tyne Metropolitan College, Battle Hill Drive, Wallsend, NE28 9NL

Other designated staff: Student Wellbeing Coordinator, Tyne Metropolitan College, Battle Hill Drive, Wallsend, NE28 9NL

Checklist for External Speakers

Name of Tutor:		Department:				
HoD / Deputy HoD:		Course:				
Session Title:		Date of Session:				
Aim of the Session:		Speaker:				
Name and Address of Organisation:		Name and Address of Organisation confirmed (<i>new Organisations only</i>):	Yes	No	Location of Information:	
Resources to be used:		Resources received in Advance of Event:	Date:	Contents checked and suitable:	Yes	No
Will the Tutor be present during the event? Yes / No						
Comments:						
Approval of Speaker to be signed off by Director of Learning Development:						
Signature:			Date:			
Comments / Recommendations:						

Designated Staff and Governor with Safeguarding Responsibilities:
To be confirmed annually

For 2015/16:

Designated senior member of staff with lead responsibility for safeguarding: Pam Robertson - Director of Learning Development, phone number 0191 229 5141

Designated Governor: Janet Hunter for 2015-16 (contact via: Company Secretary) 0191 229 5000 (via switchboard)

Other designated staff: Jude Fletcher – Student Wellbeing Coordinator, phone number 0191 229 5227, email judith.fletcher@tynemet.ac.uk