BUCKS UTC

PREVENT
Safeguarding
Policy
2021/22

Introduction

Overall social and educational inclusion is good at Bucks UTC and underpins the core values, policies and strategic planning of the organisation. There is a high level of commitment to equality of opportunity and the curriculum and support services are designed to meet the needs of all groups of students. The UTC respects and celebrates the diversity of its community in which people have the freedom and form to embrace their identity.

The aim of this policy is to outline our approach to supporting the national 'Prevent' Agenda linked to the safeguarding of our students and staff. This policy is written with reference to the Prevent Duty contained within Section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 and the specific Prevent Duty Guidance:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-extremism-in-schools-and-childrens-services/preventing-extremism-in-the-education-and-childrens-services-sectors

"Prevent is one of the key elements of CONTEST, the Government's counter- terrorism strategy and it aims to stop people from being drawn into terrorist-related activity. *Prevent* has a strong link to safeguarding because vulnerable children and adults can be susceptible to radicalisation and recruitment into terrorist organisations.

Nationally, there have been cases where extremist groups have attempted to radicalise vulnerable children to hold extreme views. Such views include justifying political, religious, sexist or racist violence, or to steer individuals into a rigid and narrow ideology that is either vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values including embracing diversity and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

While it remains rare for children and young people to become involved in terrorist activity, they can be exposed to terrorist and extremist influences or prejudiced views from a young age. This can include through the influence of family members or friends and/or direct contact with extremist groups and organisations or, increasingly, through the internet. This can put a young person at risk of being drawn into illegal activity and has the potential to cause significant harm. As with other forms of safeguarding strategies, early intervention is always preferable. All agencies working with children and young people, along with families and communities, play a key role in ensuring young people and their communities are safe from the threat of radicalisation and terrorism."

From https://www.bucks-lscb.org.uk/professionals/exploitation/prevent-radicalisation/

Scope of Policy

This policy stands alone but is closely linked to the UTC's Safeguarding policy with all members of the UTC community being within scope including: including; students, staff, visitors, employer partners, contractors, volunteers or individuals on work placements

This Policy should be read in conjunction with the following UTC Policies and Procedures which outline the implementation and responsibilities related to this Policy:

- Equality and Diversity
- Safeguarding Children and Young People
- Health and Safety
- Anti-Bullying
- Personal, social, health & economic (PSHE) & Relationships & Sex Education Policy
- Risk Management
- IT Acceptable Use Policy

National Prevent Strategy Objectives:

The Prevent duty, introduced as part of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015, came into effect for key bodies including schools, health bodies and police on 1st July 2015 and the most current information from Government has stated that Universities and colleges across the country are from Friday 18 September 2015 legally required to take steps to prevent students from being drawn into terrorism. The latest departmental advice for schools can be found at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment _data/file/439598/prevent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf

The Strategy has identified three key national objectives:

- 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, and
- Work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation which we need to address

Statement of Policy

To adhere to our legal obligations and to safeguard the health, well-being and safety of individuals and the UTC community, Bucks UTC will:

- Through its activities, systems and culture champion democratic values, rule of law, equality of opportunity, freedom of speech and the rights of all men and women to live free from persecution of any kind

- Work in partnership with external agencies to seek advice, share intelligence and safeguard individuals and the College community including our local Police and County Council,
  https://www.bucks-lscb.org.uk/professionals/exploitation/prevent-radicalisation/

- Provide comprehensive systems for reporting concerns and working with vulnerable individuals following the reporting to CHANNEL procedures
  https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/community/preventing-extremism/channel/

- Use the prevent education resources and toolkits
  https://schoolsweb.buckscc.gov.uk/equalities/prevent/

Provide training and development for staff, governors and students to recognise signs of radicalisation and understand responsibilities and systems for reporting concerns; monitor this training through staff CPD records. Training is provided through Staff development sessions, e-learning and workshops.

- Provide all students with access to welfare and safeguarding support and a personal tutor who will meet with them regularly to monitor academic, personal and social progress

- Provide posters and visual information within the UTC to inform and remind staff, students and visitors of the Prevent agenda and the UTC values

- Provide opportunities, events and forums to engage as a community to: celebrate diversity; promote critical thinking; debate and challenge

- Work with multi-agency teams to develop interventions for students at risk, including students with learning difficulties and disabilities

- Prohibit access to extremist material and monitor the use of IT through the UTC IT Acceptable Use Policy

- Monitor the use of accommodation by students, staff and commercial lettings

ASSOCIATION OF CHIEF POLICE OFFICERS

Home Office

Channel Factsheet

Prevent Delivery Unit

Channel – A Partnership Approach to Protecting Vulnerable People From Being Drawn Into Terrorism.

What is Channel?

Channel is a multi-agency approach to provide support to individuals who are at risk of being drawn into terrorist related activity. The process, which operates across England and Wales, forms a key part of the Government's *Prevent* strategy which aims to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting any form of terrorism.

Channel seeks to :

- Safeguard individuals who might be vulnerable to being radicalised, so that they are not at risk of being drawn into terrorist related activity;
- Ensure that individuals and communities have the ability to resist all forms of terrorism and violent extremist activity likely to lead to terrorism.

How does Channel work?

The Channel process identifies those most at risk of radicalisation, and refers them via the police or local authority for assessment by a multi-agency panel. The panel, chaired by the local authority, considers how best to safeguard them and support their vulnerability through a support package tailored to individual needs.

This is similar to the way in which individuals at risk from involvement in crime, drugs and other social issues are supported.

Partnership involvement ensures that those at risk have access to a wide range of support ranging from mainstream services, such as health and education, through to specialist mentoring or faith guidance and wider diversionary activities. Each support package is monitored closely and reviewed regularly by the multi-agency panel.

What factors can put people at risk?

There is no single way of identifying who is likely to be vulnerable in this way. Factors may include: peer pressure, influence from other people or the internet, bullying, crime and anti-social behaviour, family tensions, race/hate crime, lack of self esteem or identity and personal or political grievances.

Who is involved in Channel?

Channel is a multi-agency, early intervention process. Partnership and community involvement is vital to ensure that people most at risk are given support at an early stage. Partners include:

- Local authorities (Adult and Children's Services, etc);
- Education;
- Health;
- Probation, Youth Offending Teams and Prisons;

- Police Service and other emergency services;
- UK Border Agency;
- Community and Voluntary Services; and
- Local communities.

People working in neighbourhood and community safety roles, carrying out home visits, volunteering, working in safeguarding roles or those who are already supporting vulnerable people, may often be the first to see signs of concern.

How do I make a referral or find out more about Channel?

Referrals to the Channel process are coordinated by the police but come from a wide range of sources, including members of the public, social services, youth offending teams and health and education practitioners.

If you work for a partner organisation and want to know more about Channel or have a concern about an individual and want to make a referral, contact your organisation's safeguarding lead.

If you are a community or family member and are concerned about someone please contact your local authority, the police or other trusted, local community organisations for further advice.

For further enquiries about Channel or more information about the work of the ACPO *Prevent* Delivery Unit email prevent@acpo.pnn.police.uk