



# **SCLS Prevent Policy** **2020/2021**

Date reviewed: 24<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Next review date: July 2021

## Prevent Strategy

Prevent is a strand of the Government's counter terrorism strategy – 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:

- Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and aspects of extremism, and the threat we face from those who promote these views
- Provide practical help to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support
- Work with a wide range of sectors where there are risks of radicalisation which needs to be addressed, including education, criminal justice, faith, charities, the internet and health

The current threat level from international terrorism in the UK and in the North West is substantial which means that a terrorist attack is highly likely. A system of threat level has been created which represents the likelihood of an attack in the near future. The five levels are:

- Critical- an attack is expected imminently
- Severe – an attack is highly likely
- Substantial – an attack is a strong possibility
- Moderate – an attack is possible but not likely
- Low – an attack is unlikely

**Sefton Community Learning Service** is committed to providing a secure environment for learners, where they feel safe and are kept safe. All staff at Sefton Community Learning Service recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility irrespective of the role they undertake or whether their role has direct contact or responsibility for learners or not.

Sefton Community Learning Service is an education and training provider for the 19 + year age group. It has to recognise that learners from ethnically diverse, and socially and economically disadvantaged areas, are aware of the Services involved in the Prevent Policy. Sefton Community Learning Service has a part to play in fostering shared values and promoting cohesion. Our Service has a duty to recognise and inform our learners on the risks of violent extremism, which represents the greatest threat at national level, while recognising that other forms of violence and extremism can and do manifest themselves within educational establishments and other training settings. This policy has a number of 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 ensure learner safety and that the Service is free from bullying, harassment and discrimination

3. To provide support for learner who may be at risk and appropriate sources of advice and guidance
4. To ensure that learners and staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities in preventing violent extremism.

In order to achieve these objectives our policy will concentrate on four areas;

## **Leadership and Values**

At Sefton Community Learning Service we will promote the British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs. We will teach and encourage learners to respect one another and to respect and tolerate difference, especially those of a different faith or no faith. It is indeed our most fundamental responsibility to keep our learners safe and prepare them for life in modern multi-cultural Britain and globally.

To provide an ethos which upholds core values of shared responsibility and wellbeing for all learners, staff and visitors and promotes respect, equality and diversity and understanding. This will be achieved through:

- Promoting core values of respect, equality and diversity, democratic society, learner voice and participation
- Building staff and learners' understanding of the issues and confidence to deal with them
- Deepening engagement with local communities
- Actively working with local schools, local authorities, police and other agencies

## **Teaching Approaches**

We will all strive to eradicate the myths and assumptions that can lead to some learners or staff becoming alienated and disempowered, especially where the narrow approaches some learners may experience elsewhere may make it harder for them to challenge or question these radical influences.

There is no place for extremist views of any kind in our Service, whether from internal sources – learners, staff or governors, or external sources – our Service community, external agencies or individuals. Our learners see our Service as a safe place where they can explore controversial issues safely and where our staff encourage and facilitate this – we have a duty to ensure this happens

As a Service we recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to innocent individuals / groups being targeted, harmed and in extreme cases killed. We also recognise that if we fail to challenge extremist views we are failing to protect our learners.

Therefore all our staff will receive specialist training from either Merseyside Police in Prevent or by completing online training with <https://www.foundationonline.org.uk/> and <http://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/>

This training is part of the Government counter-terrorism strategy. It's designed to tackle the problem of terrorism at its roots, preventing people from supporting terrorism or becoming terrorists themselves. When staff are concerned about an individual or group the PREVENT regional co-ordinator will be contacted and they may choose to send any relevant information to Channel. - "Channel is a multi-agency partnership that evaluates referrals of individuals at risk of being drawn into terrorism, working alongside safeguarding partnerships and crime reduction panels." (Prevent Strategy, Home Office, 2011)

In our programmes this will be achieved by good teaching, promotion of citizenship, reinforcement of safeguarding and equality and diversity & Inclusion policies and through effective PREVENT training for all staff. We will ensure that all of our staff are equipped to recognise extremism and are skilled and confident enough to challenge it.

## **Learner 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 learner support
- Listening to what is happening within the Service and the community
- Implementing anti-bullying strategies and challenging discriminatory behaviour
- Helping learners and staff know how to access support within the Service and or through community partners
- Supporting problem solving and repair of harm
- Supporting at risk learners through safeguarding and crime prevention processes
- Focussing on narrowing the attainment gap for all learners

## **Managing Risks and Responding to Events**

Sefton Community Learning Service monitors risks and is ready to deal appropriately with issues which arise. We will ensure we do this through:

- Understanding the nature of the threat from violent extremism and how this may impact directly or indirectly on our Service
- Understanding and managing potential risks within the Service and from external influences
- Responding appropriately to events in local, national or international news that may impact on learners and communities
- Developing an effective ICT security and responsible user policies

Sefton Community Learning Service complies with all requirements as determined by funding bodies to ensure that our provision is offered with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of learners.

The Liverpool City Region and ESFA must be informed of any referrals as stated on the Funding Agreement. This includes:

- where a referral has been made of an individual for the purposes of determining whether that individual should be referred to a panel for the carrying out of an assessment under section 36 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 of the extent to which that individual is vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism.

- an incident, or pattern of incidents, which undermines the promotion of British fundamental values or the ability of the Contractor or the Contractor Related Parties to comply with the Prevent duty.