



## College of Osteopaths Prevent Duty

The new Prevent Duty, which came into force for Higher Education Providers in September 2015 as part of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, places legal requirements on the College to minimise the risk of individuals being drawn into terrorism and to ensure vulnerable individuals receive timely and appropriate support. These pages are intended to provide our community with an understanding of what the Prevent Duty is, how it relates to the College of Osteopaths and our approach in meeting our obligations and keeping those within our community safe and protected. This policy should be read in conjunction with the College's Safeguarding Policy and any other relevant policies, some of which are mentioned below.

The Prevent Duty has three main objectives:

1. Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat faced from those who promote it
2. Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and give them advice and support
3. Work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation

The statutory guidance for higher education institutions highlights key areas of attention. These are:

- external speakers
- partnerships with other local organisations engaged with Prevent
- risk assessment and action plan
- staff training
- welfare and pastoral care/chaplaincy support
- IT policies
- Students' Union and societies.

The Office for Students is the monitoring body for Prevent for HE providers.

### **Our Response**

The College takes a proactive, safeguarding-focused approach to implementing our Prevent duty

- We are committed to encouraging events which stimulate open debate and broaden the learning experience for all members of the College community. To ensure we provide an environment conducive to this commitment, our Policy on Freedom of Speech & Academic Freedom clearly sets out the expectations placed upon all speakers at the College. We have systems for assessing and mitigating risks around external speakers and events held by the College, while maintaining the existing duty to promote freedom of speech
- The College's Board of Governors is responsible for overseeing the College's response to its obligations under the 2015 Counter Terrorism and Security Act.
- We have a risk assessment and action plan in place which is updated annually

- The College subscribes to an on-line training platform for staff to complete Prevent Training.

## **Our Risk Assessment and Action Plan**

In accordance with the statutory guidance for higher education providers we have a risk assessment and action plan which will be reviewed regularly and is subject to monitoring and enforcement. These were last updated in March 2021.

## **Our Training**

- The College is in the process of training College staff.
- In addition, we provide targeted safeguarding training for those staff working closely with students, particularly in areas such as Student Support making sure students are supported throughout their studies.
- All of the training we provide is aimed at identifying vulnerable individuals and providing the support they need academically, personally and pastorally.

## **External Speakers**

At the College of Osteopaths, we support the open expression of views and the right to hold, challenge and rigorously debate a wide range of beliefs and positions. However, we also take our responsibility to our communities and audiences very seriously, and we prohibit any public expression of views on our premises that are in breach of the law or incite intimidation or violence. This must be taken into account when inviting an external speaker to the College.

## **Raising a Concern**

- If individuals have any concerns about a member of the College community where they may have noticed signs of radicalisation such as but not limited to, a change in behaviour, or where they are becoming withdrawn, or acting differently, they are advised to not ignore concerns and to contact one of our designated safeguarding officers . If individuals are unsure who to approach, then concerns can be sent via email to: [a.carryer@collegeofosteopaths.ac.uk](mailto:a.carryer@collegeofosteopaths.ac.uk) .
- Reporting any potential Prevent concerns can be formally raised by completing the 'Raising a Concern Form' or by completing the Safeguarding Assessment Form (Appendix 1) below.
- The Safeguarding Officer may contact the Principal, local authority partners, Regional Police Prevent & Channel Lead, the Anti-Terrorist Hotline or Local Policing Team for further advice.
- Based on the information brought to the attention of the Safeguarding Officer, in liaison with Student Support / HR the following occurs , as applicable:
  - a) The vulnerable individual is informed about internal and / or external services as appropriate.

- b) An internal referral is made to the appropriate support service available at the College or accessible through the College's collaborative agreement, e.g. Counselling service / student support service.
- c) Channel Referral Group is convened consisting of the Safeguarding Officer and two other appropriately trained members taken from the Senior Management Team and the collaborative partner university, to recommend and determine whether to refer the matter to the Channel programme. The individual who is the subject of the referral shall be informed of the Panel's decision and the reasons for the decision.
- d) A report is made to the Police.

## **Welfare and Pastoral Care**

Welfare and pastoral care at the College is provided by the Student Support Co-ordinator who can provide the following:

- Signposting to Staffordshire University Student Support Services, <https://www.staffs.ac.uk/student-life/student-support> for students on the College's Staffordshire University programme
- Signposting to the University of Derby's welfare and pastoral services that are provided by the Student Wellbeing Support Service <https://www.derby.ac.uk/study/student-support/health-and-wellbeing/> for students on the College's University of Derby programme

## **Partnerships with other local organisations engaged with Prevent**

The College has partnerships with other local organisations, including its two validating Universities that are engaged with Prevent.

Staffordshire University – Students who have any concerns about a member of the University community whilst studying on-campus, are advised to speak with one of the Universities designated safeguarding officers. For any immediate concerns, students are advised to ring Campus control or the Emergency Services. Concerns should also be reported to Lead Safeguarding Officer: Ian Munton

Telephone: [01782 294668](tel:01782294668) Email: [Ian.Munton@staffs.ac.uk](mailto:Ian.Munton@staffs.ac.uk)

Deputy Safeguarding Officer: Amanda Sherratt

Telephone: [01782 294973](tel:01782294973) Email: [A.J.Sherratt@staffs.ac.uk](mailto:A.J.Sherratt@staffs.ac.uk)

University of Derby – If there any incidents or cause for immediate concern whilst students are on-campus, the student can raise this via security or indeed, 999 depending on the urgency of the situation (immediate threat to themselves or others) but should be followed by alerting on-campus security. Concerns should also be reported to the Registry Operations Co-ordinator: Owen Metcalfe: Telephone: [07825 521800](tel:07825521800) Email:

[Prevent@derby.ac.uk](mailto:Prevent@derby.ac.uk)

## **IT Policy**

The College has an IT policy in which it is clearly stated that users must not use the internet or email to access or share any material that may be considered to relate to terrorism or extremism nor should such material be downloaded or stored on systems owned or controlled by the College.

## **Retention of Information**

- The College complies with the principles of data protection law in the way that it retains and disposes of personal information.
- Written records of any safeguarding concerns will be retained for as long as is necessary for the purpose for which it was obtained or as legally required or lawfully permitted.
- Such written records will be held centrally and separately in a secure area on the College's 'O' Drive.

## **Monitoring & Reporting**

The Quality & Standards Committee will review this procedure on an annual basis and is responsible for overseeing and updating this policy and procedure particularly with respect to the legal obligations and other external requirements.

## Appendix 1: Safeguarding (Including Prevent) Risk Assessment

Section 1 to be completed by individual reporting the concern

Name of child/vulnerable adult (if known):	
Date of birth or age (of child):	Gender: (M/F)
Description of the safe-guarding issue. Description might include a factual account of something you have witnessed or an account of something a third party has reported to you.	
Time, location, date if incident(s) if known:	
Any other observations/information:	
Name of Individual reporting the concern	
Position:	
Action undertaken by person reporting the concern:	
Date concern reported:	

**Section 2 to be completed by the Safeguarding Officer**

Is the child or vulnerable adult who is the subject of the concern at immediate risk?	<p><b>Yes / No</b></p> <p><b>Details:</b></p>
Does the incident relate to an allegation about a student or member of staff?	
Should the staff or student be referred to the Senior Management Team for consideration of a precautionary suspension?	
Does the reported incident constitute a criminal offence requiring referral to the police?	
<p>Actions to be undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) No further action.</li> <li>b) Referral to the SMT for consideration of a precautionary suspension.</li> <li>c) Referral to an alternate College policy or procedure such as the Staff or Student Disciplinary Procedure.</li> <li>d) Report the matter to the local Safeguarding Team / initiate Channel process.</li> <li>e) Report the matter to the police.</li> </ul>	
Signed:	
Date:	