



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.

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 October 2019.

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.

Contact

If you have concerns about a member of our College community, you are advised to speak with one of our designated safeguarding officers . If you are unsure who to approach, you can send your concerns via email to: a.carryer@collegeofosteopaths.ac.uk

If you have immediate concerns and/or believe that someone is at risk of harm then you are advised to ring Emergency Services on 999.