

# Safeguarding & the Prevent Duty

#### 1. PREVENT DUTY

- 1.1 Prevent is one of the four elements of <u>CONTEST</u>, the Government's counter-terrorism strategy and is centred on safeguarding and supporting those individuals who may become vulnerable to radicalisation. Prevent aims to stop individuals become terrorists or supporting terrorism or terrorist activities. The strategy has three objectives (i) tackle the causes of radicalisation and response to the ideological challenge of terrorism, (ii) safeguard and support those most at risk of radicalisation through early intervention, identifying them and offering support and (iii) enabling those who have already engaged in terrorism to disengage and rehabilitate with support. The delivery of Prevent is led by the Home Office working with local authorities, public services and community organisations.
- 1.2 Since 2015 Higher Education providers have had a statutory duty to have due regard to the requirements of the Prevent duty and to ensure institution compliance and the Government has issued statutory guidance for universities on this duty. Awareness of Prevent also involves an understanding of the wider context within which HE providers operate including the Education Act (No.2) 1986, the Education Reform Act 1988 and the Equality Act 2010.
- 1.3 Royal Holloway acknowledges its requirements and is committed to uphold the statutory duty to have due regard to the risk of people within its community being drawn into radicalisation and terrorism. The institution continues to recognise our role in protecting students and staff from harm whilst maintaining our commitment to freedom of speech, academic freedom and the importance of the ongoing promotion of equal opportunities for all.
- 1.4 Preventing students and apprentices from being drawn into terrorism or supporting terrorism is fundamentally considered a safeguarding duty. Any concern that a student or apprentice is being radicalised or exploited by others into support terrorism or acts of terrorism should be raised under the <a href="Safeguarding Policy">Safeguarding Policy</a> via the Department / School Responsible person (School Manager) or via the Designated Safeguarding and Prevent Lead.
- 1.5 The Head of Wellbeing acts as the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Prevent Lead and can be contacted at <a href="mailto:safeguarding@royalhollway.ac.uk">safeguarding@royalhollway.ac.uk</a>.
- 1.6 Key student facing university staff (academic and professional services) are identified to undertake Prevent e-learning to understand how to recognise vulnerability in students and apprentices; to know how to share and escalate concerns; to be able to ensure a proportionate and appropriate early intervention is in place; and to safeguard and protect students and apprentices from harm or criminal behaviour.
- 1.7 We ask that all members of the College community (students, staff and visitors) remain alert to the behaviour and presentation of others in our community and to the signs of vulnerability that may lead to radicalisation and commit to doing what they can to ensure the health and wellbeing, safety and support of students.
- 1.8 Behaviours and vulnerabilities do not necessarily mean someone is being radicalised and there could be other explanations for the behaviour you notice. However it is important to remain alert and reach out to discuss concerns. Signs and vulnerabilities may include:
  - (i) Someone being influenced or controlled by a group;

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- (ii) An obsessive or angry desire for change or 'something to be done';
- (iii) Spending an increasing amount of time online and sharing extreme views on social media;
- (iv) Personal crisis;
- (v) Need for identity, meaning and belonging;
- (vi) Mental health issues;
- (vii) Looking to blame others;
- (viii) Desire for status, need to dominate;

Source: Act Early: Signs & Vulnerabilities

## 2. SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

- 2.1 The College recognises the importance of safeguarding and supporting our students, apprentices and our community and the provision of mental health and wellbeing support and campus security is pivotal to this. Students are encouraged to seek support and advice for any matters of concern about their safety and wellbeing.
- 2.2 Within the College students may talk to a Wellbeing Adviser, Counsellor, Mental Health Practitioner, Personal Tutor, or GP Surgery. The Wellbeing department will also be able to provide guidance, signposting and referral to external specialist services and will seek advice from relevant external agencies as required to ensure a proportionate response.
- 2.3 If a student has concerns that another student seems to be experiencing difficulties in their life for whatever reason they should encourage them to seek support and advice from one of the services listed above.
- 2.4 If it is believed that a student is at immediate or imminent risk, or that they may pose a risk to themselves or others this should be reported as a cause for concern. In an emergency this can be reported to the Campus Security team and all other concerns should be reported to the Wellbeing department for assessment of risk and for prompt support or intervention.

# **FURTHER INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE**

If anyone considers that this statement has not been followed or for further information on the interpretation and application of the statement please contact the statement owner.

Statement Owner	Head of Wellbeing
Approving Body	Prevent Committee
Version number	1
Related policies, procedures and guidelines	(i) Safeguarding Policy (ii) Student Conduct Regulations
Approved on	January 2022
Review deadline	January 2025

## **APPENDIX 1**

### SUPPORT AND SOURCES FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND ADVICE

# Emergency and out of hours sources of support

 $\frac{https://intranet.royalholloway.ac.uk/students/help-support/get-help-with-an-emergency/get-help-with-an-emergency-or-contact-security.aspx\\$ 

#### Internal

Wellbeing: Counselling <u>counselling@royalholloway.ac.uk</u>

Wellbeing: Disability

disability-dyslexia@royalholloway.ac.uk

Wellbeing: International Support

internationaladvice@royalholloway.ac.uk

Wellbeing: Mental Health

Wellbeing: Multifaith Chaplaincy

Wellbeing: Support & Guidance

mentalhealth@royalholloway.ac.uk

chaplaincy@royalholloway.ac.uk

wellbeing@royalholloway.ac.uk

Students' Union Advice Centre <u>advice@su.rhul.ac.uk</u>

Security <u>securityrhul@royalholloway.ac.uk</u>

Academic Personal Tutor See School Helpdesk for more information

External

Surrey Police <u>www.surrey.police.uk/</u> or 101 (non-emergency)

Call 999 in an emergency

National Police Prevent Advice line 0800 011 3764

If you're worried about someone, you can call the Prevent advice line o8oo o11 3764, in confidence, to share your concerns with their specially trained officers. This advice line is available every day 9:00am – 5:00pm. Calls outside of these hours will be transferred to specialist Counter Terrorism officers.