

Prevent Policy

ADM-PREP 109

Contents

Introduction	3
Policy statement.....	3
Scope Of responsibilities	4
Welfare	4
External speakers and events	4
Leadership and partnership	5
Reporting a concern	5
Engagement with students.....	6
Training	6
Channel	6
IT.....	6
Annual review and reporting.....	7

Introduction

NCIUL is committed to providing a secure environment for learners, where they feel safe and are kept safe. All staff at NCIUL 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.

In adhering to this policy and the procedures therein, staff and visitors will contribute to NCIUL's delivery of the outcomes to all learners. This Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Safeguarding Policy, is one element within our arrangements to Safeguard and Promote the Welfare of all Students in line with our statutory duties set out at s175 of the Education Act 2002.

Policy statement

The aim of the Prevent Policy is to create and maintain a safe, healthy and supportive learning and working environment for our learners, staff and visitors alike. We recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes for learners. We further recognise that if we fail to challenge extremist views we are failing to protect our learners from potential harm. As such the Prevent agenda will be addressed as a safeguarding concern. NCIUL has adopted the Prevent Duty in accordance with legislative requirements. However, we will endeavour to incorporate the relevant duties so as not to: (a) Stifle legitimate discussions, debate or learner engagement activities in the local communities we serve; or (b) Stereotype, label or single out individuals based on their origins, ethnicity, faith and beliefs or any other characteristics protected under the Equality Act 2010.

NCIUL, as an institution of higher education, has a role in delivering the UK Government's overall counter-terrorism Prevent Strategy, published by the Government in 2006 and revised in 2011 (followed by the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015).

The Managing Director of NCIUL is responsible for the implementation of the requirements of the Act (Prevent Duty) and all staff and students must be aware of their responsibilities in this regard. NCIUL has appointed a Prevent & Safeguarding Lead to take responsibility on a day-to-day basis.

Scope Of responsibilities

NCIUL`s current policies are designed to promote liberal views. The institution aims to balance creating a stimulating learning environment, which allows freedom of speech, whilst challenging extreme views in every possible way. NCIUL has several processes in place to assess and counteract the risk of people being drawn into terrorism.

Welfare

All staff and students have received information about the Prevent Duty and been given information to help them identify factors that make people more likely to be drawn into supporting terrorist ideologies. There is a procedure for staff and students and others to raise any concerns – see the chart below.

If staff or students are identified as being at risk, or are expressing views which relate to harming themselves or others or which are contradictory to the Equality and Diversity Policy, actions will be taken to ensure that they can access support. This might mean being referred for appropriate counselling or to a GP or to other health-based services.

External speakers and events

While NCIUL upholds the principles of academic freedom and freedom of speech, invited speakers to events arranged by staff or students will be asked to confirm that they agree with and meet the principles outlined in the Prevent Policy and the Equality and Diversity Policy. It will be the responsibility of Safeguarding Officer and the Ethics, Equality and Diversity Committee to assess the suitability of external speakers in the light of these policies. Those organising events should inform the

Safeguarding Officer in sufficient time before the date of the event to assess the risks fully and to manage the organisation of the event. NCIUL also recognises the need to ensure that an event organiser has fully considered the potential risks pertaining to the speaker or the event itself. This procedure has been widely communicated to staff and students.

Leadership and partnership

NCIUL`s Prevent core team comprises the Director, the Safeguarding & Prevent Officer and the Chair of the Ethics, Equality and Diversity Committee. The team works with Deans of Faculty and student representatives in ensuring that there is full awareness of the Prevent Duty across the institution.

NCIUL has established lines of communication with the local police, the Metropolitan Police Force and the anti-terrorism authorities.

NCIUL will monitor risks and will deal appropriately with issues which arise. This includes understanding the nature of the threat from violent extremism, and responding appropriately to events in local, national or international news and ensuring that plans are in place to respond appropriately to a threat or incident within NCIUL.

Reporting a concern

If any member of staff or a student member has become aware of an issue, or an individual at risk under the prevent strategy, they should report the concern or event to the Safeguarding and Prevent Lead who will advise of further action or signpost appropriately.

Prevent and Safeguarding Lead	Damon Parker 07967 011491 damonparker@nciul.ac.uk
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When reporting a concern, please remember to:

- Record factual information and concerns.
- Do not base information on supposition or stereotyped belief.
- Keep information succinct and to the point.

Engagement with students

The curriculum and teaching practices foster the promotion of knowledge, skills and understanding which promote in students and staff alike the desire to challenge extremist views and ideology. Awareness of global, national and local issues is encouraged and students and staff are encouraged to be aware of and safely challenge behaviours that do not foster tolerance, democracy, rule of law and individual liberty and freedoms. All students and staff receive an induction on the practice and processes highlighted below in this policy and will receive regular refreshers and updates to enable their awareness to be current.

Training

All staff and students will be required to complete specific training on the Prevent Duty so that they are aware of issues related to terrorism; this includes understanding of the Duty and when, how and to whom to report suspicions. NCIUL aims to ensure that all members of the institutional community will develop sufficient knowledge and understanding of their responsibilities to prevent people being drawn into terrorism. The Safeguarding Officer will be required to undertake additional personal training and updating in order to fully understand the requirements of the duty.

Channel

Where concerns exist in relation to extremist behaviours and ideology, NCIUL will refer the matter as appropriate to the local Channel Panel. NCIUL aims to support all staff and students to become effective contributors to the community and will continually raise awareness of local safeguarding boards, panels and local signposting to nurture community collaboration against extremist views and ideology.

IT

NCIUL will assess and monitor staff and student activity on the e-learning website.

This includes monitoring class forums and posts. If suspicious activity is noted, then an investigation will be conducted by the module leader and escalated to senior management if required. NCIUL has also ensured that its IT system includes an appropriate pop-up on blocked websites, directing users to contact the Safeguarding Officer. Where extremist behaviour is noted or observed, NCIUL will challenge or report this behaviour to the appropriate authorities and panels.

Annual review and reporting

The NCIUL Prevent Policy will be assessed annually by the Ethics, Equality and Diversity Committee to ensure that the requirements of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act, 2015 are met. An annual report will be prepared for consideration within NCIUL and for submission to HEFCE, which has been appointed by the Government to monitor implementation of the statutory Prevent Duty in the higher education sector in England.

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