



## Safeguarding and Prevent Policy

| Field                     | Detail                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Policy no.                | SWS 7.7                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Version no. & date        | Version 1.1 – 23 October 2026                                                                                                                                                             |
| Author                    | Head of Student Support and Experience                                                                                                                                                    |
| Last review date          | 23 October 2026                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Next review due           | October 2028                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Responsible Committee     | Quality of Education Committee                                                                                                                                                            |
| Approved by & date        | Quality of Education Committee – 23 October 2026                                                                                                                                          |
| External reference points | Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 Prevent duty guidance for specified authorities in England and Wales (Home Office, 2023)<br>Office for Students Prevent duty monitoring framework |
| Linked policies           | GA 3.7 Freedom of Speech and External Speakers Policy                                                                                                                                     |
| Audience                  | All staff, students, contractors and visitors                                                                                                                                             |

## 1. Purpose

This policy sets out how UK College of Business and Computing (UKCBC or the College) fulfils its statutory duty under section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

UKCBC recognises that vulnerability to radicalisation constitutes a form of harm and that Prevent is therefore an integral element of the College's wider safeguarding, student welfare and risk assurance framework. The College further recognises that the implementation of Prevent must be balanced carefully with its legal and moral obligations to uphold academic freedom, lawful freedom of speech, equality, and individual rights.

This policy provides high level governance direction. Detailed operational processes sit within subsidiary safeguarding, IT, external speakers, partnership and student support procedures.

## 2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All students registered with UKCBC
- All staff, including academic, professional, associate and visiting staff
- Contractors, external speakers, partners and visitors
- All College premises, systems and activities

The policy applies to activities taking place on and off campus where those activities are reasonably connected to the College, including franchised delivery, placements and events delivered in partnership with external organisations.

## 3. Institutional Context

UKCBC delivers higher education primarily through partnership arrangements with universities. Within this delivery model:

- UKCBC retains responsibility for operational compliance with the Prevent duty in respect of its staff, students, premises and systems
- Partner universities retain overarching academic governance responsibilities for franchised programmes
- Prevent arrangements are aligned through information sharing, escalation protocols and policy mapping where required

Partnership arrangements do not dilute UKCBC's statutory responsibilities. Prevent compliance is therefore managed locally and proportionately, while ensuring coherence with partner university frameworks.

## 4. Definitions

For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply.

### **Prevent duty**

The statutory duty placed on specified authorities to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

## **Radicalisation**

The process by which an individual comes to support terrorism or extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

## **Extremism**

Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, where such opposition is reasonably linked to terrorism.

## **Channel**

A multi-agency safeguarding programme providing early intervention support to individuals who are assessed as being vulnerable to radicalisation.

## **5. Legal Framework**

This policy is informed by and aligned to:

- Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Prevent duty guidance for specified authorities in England and Wales (Home Office, 2023)
- Office for Students Prevent duty monitoring framework
- Equality Act 2010
- Data protection legislation
- Education (No. 2) Act 1986
- Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Act 2023 (when in force)

## **6. Prevent Principles**

In recognition of the potential tension between Prevent duties and core higher education values, UKCBC applies Prevent through the following principles, adapted from established sector practice.

### **6.1 Safeguarding and Support**

Prevent is treated as a safeguarding issue. The College's primary response to vulnerability is care, support and early intervention.

### **6.2 Proportionality and Risk Based Judgement**

Prevent measures are applied proportionately, informed by risk assessment and evidence, rather than blanket restrictions.

### **6.3 Academic Freedom**

Staff and students retain the freedom within the law to teach, research, question and debate controversial or challenging ideas. Academic activity is not restricted unless a specific and credible risk is identified.

### **6.4 Freedom of Speech**

The College upholds lawful freedom of speech. Decisions relating to speakers, events and materials are made on a case-by-case basis following proportionate risk assessment.

### **6.5 Equality and Inclusion**

Prevent is implemented in a manner that avoids stereotyping, discrimination or stigmatisation of individuals or communities.

## 6.6 Education and Awareness

Education, staff awareness and critical thinking are central to reducing susceptibility to radicalisation.

## 6.7 Information Sharing

Information sharing is lawful, proportionate and necessary. Prevent does not justify blanket or routine sharing of personal data.

## 6.8 Partnership Working

The College works collaboratively with partner universities, local authorities, Prevent coordinators, police and Channel panels.

# 7. Leadership, Governance and Accountability

## 7.1 Prevent Leadership

The College appoints a senior Prevent Lead with responsibility for:

- Oversight of Prevent compliance
- Liaison with statutory agencies and Channel
- Ensuring staff training and awareness
- Maintaining Prevent related records and evidence

## 7.2 Governance Oversight

The Quality of Education Committee receives regular assurance regarding Prevent compliance and reports to the Academic Board. Prevent forms part of the College's wider safeguarding and risk assurance framework.

The governing body retains ultimate responsibility for ensuring that statutory duties are met.

# 8. Risk Assessment and Action Planning

UKCBC maintains a Prevent risk assessment that:

- Is reviewed at least annually
- Reflects the College's student profile, delivery model and local context
- Considers risks relating to learners, staff, online activity, events and partnerships

Where risks are identified, proportionate mitigation actions are recorded and monitored through an action plan. Prevent risks are integrated into the College's safeguarding and corporate risk registers.

# 9. Staff Training and Awareness

All relevant staff receive Prevent awareness training appropriate to their role. This includes:

- Mandatory training at induction
- Periodic refresher training for student facing roles
- Enhanced training for the Prevent Lead and safeguarding leads

Training is designed to ensure cultural sensitivity and awareness of equality considerations. Records of training completion are maintained for assurance and inspection purposes.

## 10. Safeguarding, Support and Referrals

The College appoints the Head of Student Support and Experience as Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). The DSL holds oversight of safeguarding concerns that do not fall within the Prevent duty, coordinates referrals to external safeguarding agencies, and liaises with the Prevent Lead where concerns overlap. Safeguarding concerns should be reported to the DSL or to [safeguarding@ukcbc.ac.uk](mailto:safeguarding@ukcbc.ac.uk) without delay.

### 10.1 Reporting Concerns

UKCBC applies a Notice, Check, Share approach when concerns arise that an individual may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. This approach supports early, proportionate intervention and aligns Prevent with the College's wider safeguarding framework.

#### Notice

Staff are expected to remain alert to indicators that an individual may be vulnerable to radicalisation. This may include observable changes in behaviour, expressed ideology or other factors that give rise to concern. Such indicators must always be considered carefully and in context, recognising that vulnerability may have multiple explanations.

#### Check

Where appropriate and safe to do so, staff are encouraged to check concerns sensitively with the individual and to discuss the matter with a Student Support and Experience Manager or the Prevent Lead. This stage supports professional judgement and helps ensure that concerns are understood accurately before escalation.

#### Share

Where there is an immediate concern relating to threats, violence, or risks to the safety or welfare of an individual or others, concerns must be shared without delay with the Prevent Lead. Concerns should be reported by telephone on **0208 518 4994** or by email to [safeguarding@ukcbc.ac.uk](mailto:safeguarding@ukcbc.ac.uk).

The Prevent Lead will determine whether the concern requires escalation to external partners and, where appropriate, will complete a Prevent referral in line with statutory guidance.

### 10.2 Support and Confidentiality

Any member of staff or student who raises a concern in good faith and in accordance with this policy will be supported by the College. All concerns are handled sensitively and confidentially, with information shared only where necessary, lawful and proportionate.

### 10.3 Channel Referrals

Where a concern meets the threshold for referral, the Prevent Lead will engage with local Prevent partners and Channel panels in accordance with statutory guidance. Further procedural detail relating to Channel referrals is set out in the College's safeguarding and Prevent procedures.

## 11. External Speakers, Events and Activities

The College operates proportionate processes for managing external speakers and events. These processes:

- Apply due diligence where risk is identified
- Ensure that events do not provide a platform for unlawful activity or support for terrorism
- Balance Prevent obligations with freedom of speech and academic freedom

## 12. Information Technology and Online Activity

The College maintains appropriate IT use, filtering and monitoring arrangements to reduce exposure to material reasonably linked to terrorism, while supporting legitimate academic and research activity.

Access restrictions are targeted and proportionate. Requests for access to restricted content for legitimate academic purposes are considered through established procedures.

## 13. Monitoring, Review and Assurance

Prevent compliance is monitored through:

- Annual policy and risk review
- Training records
- Safeguarding assurance processes
- Internal audit or review where appropriate

This policy is reviewed annually, or earlier in response to regulatory change or identified risk.

## Version History

| Version | Date            | Author                                 | Summary of changes                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Approved by                    |
|---------|-----------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1.1     | 23 October 2026 | Head of Student Support and Experience | Role titles updated following organisational restructure, and internal consistency corrections; front sheet, footer and cross references updated for approval. Heading spacing and labels corrected, in line with GA 3.1 (26 October 2026). | Quality of Education Committee |