

ALRA Policy – Prevent Duty

1 Introduction

ALRA takes its responsibilities towards the prevention of extremism very seriously. This document codifies its approach in response to the Government's publication of its Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales in 2015, which is based on the requirements of the Section 29 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

This Policy has been drawn up with reference to the Prevent guidance, other external publications including those from the HEFCE, QAA, NUS, Universities UK and the CUC and other related documents and information from other HEI's. The document has been informed by equality law and most importantly by the School's duty to protect academic freedom and freedom of speech. The Prevent guidance recognises this explicitly in relation to HEIs:

“Universities’ commitment to freedom of speech and the rationality underpinning the advancement of knowledge means that they represent one of our most important arenas for challenging extremist views and ideologies”

2 Policy

ALRA has developed this Policy to combat extremism to meet the requirements of Government legislation on counter terrorism, as explained through the Prevent Duty Guidance whilst also protecting academic & artistic freedom. Through this policy it will address Prevent's three strategic objectives:

- 1 respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat that we face from those who promote it - through the curriculum, pedagogy and ethos of the institution and through outreach and public engagement activities*
- 2 prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support – through our curriculum, ethos of respect for the views of others, policy on speakers, our welfare provision, and through reporting requirements*
- 3 work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation that we need to address – through our outreach and public facing research and activities and through other engagements with wider society*

The School will act cohesively to identify and address any threat of extremism within its academic community by providing training, information and a clear procedure for

reporting concerns in a confidential and effective manner to all staff and students. It will work with a range of external agencies in support of its policy.

3 Implementation

The Prevent Guidance sets out areas in which it expects a HEI to be active. These are accepted by the School and included in the listing below, but to them the School adds Mission, Ethos and Curriculum and Pedagogy due to the specialist nature of its provision. The policy will be implemented to support those individuals who may be at risk from extremist messages and to protect all members of the institution as far as possible. In line with the Prevent guidance the School will implement the policy in the following areas:

4 Mission and ethos

The School continues to make clear its commitment to respect for all, academic & artistic freedom, equality and an active opposition to extremism wherever it is located.

5 Other School policies and strategies

All School strategies and policies will be reviewed to ensure they support the School's stance against extremism.

6 Risk assessment and management

The School will:

undertake a risk assessment annually, based on the expectations of the Prevent guidance. The Assistant Principal will have operational responsibility for such matters on behalf of the Senior Management Team, with responsibility for the policy residing with the Governing Body.

7 Reporting

Strategic reporting:

The School management will report any issues to the Governing Body on a regular basis and an annual report will be provided to the Academic Board and the Governing Body.

External reporting:

The School will provide such external reports as required in law.

Reporting of concerns:

Staff and students will be provided with a confidential and safe mechanism for reporting to School management any matters of concern in relation to extremism. Should an individual raise concerns with another individual (e.g. a personal tutor or

another colleague or student), that person will make a report as above.

8 Curriculum and pedagogy

The nature of the School's specialism in Drama, enables the School to make a particular contribution to the issues of differences and dialogue. The School will continue to offer curriculum and pedagogy marked by a respect for a wide range of views, which protects academic freedom, whilst actively introducing students to and exploring the moral and ethical issues surrounding otherness which can lead to extremism. The pedagogical approach will include respect for the views of others and challenge to extremist views in positive ways.

9 IT and Library

The School will:

try to ensure that they can identify and report anyone exploring or using material considered to support extremist views and actions.

10 Outreach and public engagement

The School will continue to engage with a range of external bodies, agencies and individuals in pursuit of the Common Good

11 Welfare and support

Welfare and support services will continue to offer support for all students, including those who feel concerned about the views and actions of others.

12 Student Reps

Support and training will be given to student reps to identify any concerns.

Any speakers invited to the School by student groups and societies will be notified to the SMT in good time before such a visit is planned.

13 Information and training

The School will ensure that all staff, Trustees and students have access to education and training on issues relating to the Prevent Duty and on the School's requirements.

All staff and students will be provided with information on School expectations and personal and professional development available to students will include a

consideration of extremism and how to address it. Information will be provided on the School website.

14 Partnerships

The School will work effectively with a range of external organisations.

In relation to this policy these will include but not be limited to:

- HEFCE
- QAA
- Local authorities
- BIS
- The Police and security services
- NUS
- Training providers
- Specialist external advisers
- Research and outreach partners, placement and volunteer opportunities providers
- for students etc., whose approach to extremism will be considered before links are formalised

15 Speakers on campus, private bookings and public events

The School requires all bookings of external speakers, including by private organisations, to be notified to the SMT who can refuse to accept a booking if they have concerns about the nature and purpose of the event.

16 Concerns about activities away from campus

Staff and students will be encouraged to inform the School of any activities away from the School which they are aware of and which give them cause for concern.

Endorsed by Academic Board 23rd March 2016

Approved by Governing Body 9th March 2016