

Prevent Policy

Our commitment

HTFT Partnership Limited (hereon HTFT) are committed to informing staff of HTFT's response to Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (the Act), which places a duty on specified authorities to have 'Due regard, in the exercise of its functions, to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.'

Scope

This policy and the associated guidance covers all HTFT training programmes involving the delivery of advice, guidance, employability, assessing or training to individual learners or beneficiaries or to groups.

Responsibility

HTFT's Managing Director is responsible for this policy.

HTFT's Senior Management Team are responsible for monitoring this policy.

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Introduction

Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (the Act) places a duty on specified authorities to have:

‘Due regard, in the exercise of its functions, to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.’

HTFT is a specified authority in respect of its professional accountancy training provision. It is committed to providing students with the necessary skills and knowledge to keep themselves and others safe. Education, like other key sectors, has a responsibility to promote values of openness and tolerance and to facilitate free debate which is characteristic of being a British citizen. It is in this context that the College provides a ‘Policy to Prevent Radicalisation & Violent Extremism’.

The Government has defined Extremism in the Prevent strategy as: “vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including

- Democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- and mutual respect and tolerance of different faith and beliefs.

We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces”.

Context

The aim of this strategy is to:

- Develop an awareness of Prevent in HTFT
- Recognise current practice which contributes to the Prevent agenda
- Identify areas for improvement
- Develop and deliver a coordinated action plan

Protection from Extremism and Radicalisation is referred to in our Safeguarding policy. All staff are trained and regularly updated on safeguarding, associated professional practice, conduct and the referral process. However, the College recognises that additional training and development for staff and students is necessary and the distinction made so that the strategy does not become diluted.

Whilst Protection from Extremism and Radicalisation sits within the wider context of safeguarding and is referred to within the College Safeguarding Policy and procedures, it is also integral to other policies, such as The Equality Policy and Health and Safety and is integral to the College’s vision and values.

Staff

‘Keeping children safe in education – Statutory Guidance for Schools and Colleges’ is issued to all staff to keep students safe. This must be observed by staff as part of our safeguarding policy.

All staff receive awareness training on an on-going basis to ensure they have an understanding of the factors that make people support terrorist ideologies or engage in terrorist activity and to recognise vulnerability to being drawn into terrorism.

All staff are responsible for responding appropriately to students with challenging and inappropriate behaviour. Staff will be supported and use the skills required to challenge appropriately, as part of this strategy.

Students

Students are made aware, through tutorial discussion, newsletters and distributed resources (via email), so they:

- are informed about the current risks associated with radicalisation and extremism
- made aware of extremist groups and how that affects us
- develop awareness of how young people are groomed and persuaded to join or take part in extreme action
- have increased awareness of the government's 'Prevent' agenda

Online Safety

HTFT recognises its responsibility to ensure safe access to online information. HTFT will regularly review its policies and practices in relation to IT and internet access, in particular to social media, to ensure appropriate levels of filtering.

Delivering the Policy

HTFT has developed, and will monitor progress against, its Prevent Action Plan, reporting to the Senior Management Team.