

SfW Prevent Policy Statement DRAFT

August 2025

See also Government Prevent [Making a referral to Prevent - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/making-a-referral-to-prevent)

**What is Prevent and reporting concerns about extremism**

The Prevent Duty Policy sets out how Skills for Work addresses its statutory responsibility to pay due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. It is a response to the UK Government’s strategy to reduce terrorism set out in the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015. SfW believes individuals being drawn into terrorism is a form of harm. It accepts its obligations arising from the Prevent legislation as an important element of its general duty of care to protect its stakeholders from all forms of harm.

 As an organisation, SfW aims to balance the requirements of Prevent with its core belief that the cultural, religious, and ethnic diversity of its staff and students should be celebrated and supported.

 The duty applies to ‘people,’ so the approach includes any concerns about staff and learners.

The current threat from Terrorism and Extremism in the United Kingdom is real and severe and can involve the exploitation of vulnerable people, including children and young people.

Radicalisation is defined as the process by which people come to support terrorism and extremism and, in some cases, to then participate in terrorist groups.

Extremism is vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas (HM Government Prevent Strategy, 2011)

Terrorism is an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people; causes serious damage to property; or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious, or ideological cause.

Update to the Prevent Duty September 2025-

Ideological causes of terrorism.

The first objective of the Prevent has been changed to “tackle the ideological causes of terrorism” The ideological component of terrorism is what sets it apart from other acts of serious violence. The guidance recommends education settings consider ideology when delivering all aspects of Prevent. The guidance introduces a new theme ‘Reducing Permissive Environments’ to tackle the ideological causes of terrorism. This includes existing consideration of having effective IT and visiting speaker policies to reduce radicalising influences.

Updated Terminology

Terminology has been updated to reflect current best practices and official terminology. This includes clarifying that the guidance only applies to non-violent extremism where it can be reasonably linked to terrorism or could draw people into terrorism.

Training

Skills for Work will ensure the designated staff with prevent responsibilities receive frequent training being proportionate to the risk of terrorism and extremism in the local area.

Managing risk

Skills for Work will constantly review the risk and threat levels to reflect the local risk and threat levels are proportionate by updating and reviewing their Prevent Risk Assessment.

Information Sharing

Skills for Work will adhere to the new section relating to information sharing by completion of the National Referral form and will continue to follow their Local Authorities guidance on completing Prevent referrals as and when needed.

National Guidance and Strategies

PREVENT is a key part of the Government’s strategy to stop people becoming terrorists orEarly intervention is at the heart of PREVENT in diverting people away from supporting terrorism.PREVENT happens before any criminal activity takes place being drawn into terrorist activity, supporting, and protecting people who might be susceptible to radicalisation.

The PREVENT strategy objectives are:

Ideology: respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it.

Individuals: prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support.

Institutions:

work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation which we need to address

All staff should have an awareness of the PREVENT agenda and the various forms of radicalisation and takes in being able to recognise signs and indicators or concern and respond appropriately.

Making a Prevent Referral

If an individual (learner/staff) is likely to suffer from harm, or in immediate danger, where possible speak to the DSL first to agree a course of action.

Where there is a concern, the DSL will consider the level of risk and decide which agency to make a referral to. This could include Channel, the government’s programme for identifying and supporting individuals at risk of being drawn into terrorism, or the local authority children’s social care team.

The Department for Education also has a dedicated telephone helpline, 020 7340 7264, which Skills for Work staff can call to raise concerns about extremism with respect to a Learner. You can also email counter.extremism@education.gov.uk. Note that this is not for use in emergency situations.

In an emergency, call 999 or the confidential anti-terrorist hotline on 0800 789 321 if you:

• Think someone is in immediate danger

• Think someone may be planning to travel to join an extremist group

• See or hear something that may be terrorist-related

How to Report a Concern

Everybody has a safeguarding responsibility. A staff member, student, apprentice, or volunteer may become aware of safeguarding concerns about an individual.

All SfW staff members are responsible for reporting ay concerns about an adult at risk or an individual at risk of radicalisation.

Reporting a concern - [Making a referral to Prevent - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/making-a-referral-to-prevent)

# Contacts

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* the referral form is a single point of access that aims to make reporting any concern quickly and easily.
* SfW has trained staff to respond to concerns including safeguarding reports and will escalate matters as required and ensure support is provided.
* A central record of concerns allows us to analyse trends, work proactively to support learners and identify training needs.
* The form can be used for analysis and reporting to identify causes for concern that may extend beyond an individual report.

This policy will apply to all in the SfW community, staff, and students.

Reviewed 29/08/25