



LONDON SCHOOL
OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

PREVENTING EXTREMISM AND RADICALISATION POLICY

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Contents

1. Introduction of the Policy	3
2. Policy Statement	3
3. Policy Concept	3
4. Defining policy	4
5. College Ethos and Practice	4
6. Teaching Approaches	5
7. Use of External Speakers	5
8. Web Filtering	5
9. Risk reduction	6
10. Responsibilities	6
11. Reporting Process	7
12. Channel Referral	8
13. Training	8
14. Review	9
Appendix 1 - Indicators of vulnerability to radicalisation	9
Appendix 2 - Roles and responsibilities of the single point of contact (Prevent Lead).....	11
Appendix 3 - Risk Assessment.....	12
Appendix 4 - Key Contacts.....	13

1. Introduction of the Policy

The current threat from terrorism and extremism in the United Kingdom can involve the exploitation of vulnerable people, including young people and vulnerable adults to involve them in terrorism or activity in support of terrorism.

Since 2010, when the Government published the Prevent Strategy, there has been an awareness of the specific need to safeguard children, young people and families from violent extremism. There have been several occasions, both locally and nationally, in which extremist groups have attempted to radicalise vulnerable children and young people to hold extreme views including views justifying political, religious, sexist or racist violence, or to steer them into a rigid and narrow ideology that is intolerant of diversity and leaves them vulnerable to future radicalisation.

Under the Prevent duty introduced by the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, relevant higher education bodies will need to assess the risks of people being drawn into terrorism and ensure they have plans in place for mitigating these risks.

2. Policy Statement

London School of Science & Technology (LSST) is committed to providing a secure environment for all of our students, staff and stakeholders.

3. Policy Concept

LSST values freedom of speech and the expression of beliefs / ideology as fundamental rights underpinning our society's values. Both students and lecturers have the right to speak freely and voice their opinions. However, freedom comes with responsibility and free speech that is designed to manipulate the vulnerable or that leads to violence and harm of others goes against the moral principles in which freedom of speech is valued. Free speech is not an unqualified privilege; it is subject to laws and policies governing equality, human rights, community safety and community cohesion.

LSST clears that this exploitation and radicalisation should be viewed as a safeguarding concern.

Our college's *Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy* also draws upon the guidance contained in the *Prevent Strategy, 2011*, DfE Guidance *Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2014*; *Tackling Extremism in the UK*, DfE's *Teaching Approaches that help Build Resilience to Extremism among Young People*; Peter Clarke's *Report of July 2014*; and the Home Office Guidance *The Prevent duty in higher education in England: updated advice note for institutions (September 2016)*; *Prevent Duty Guidance, 2015* and draft *Prevent duty guidance: for higher education institutions in England and Wales (subject to parliamentary approval), 2015*.

4. Defining policy

Definitions of radicalisation and extremism, and indicators of vulnerability to radicalisation are to be found in Appendix 1.

5. College Ethos and Practice

There is no place for extremist views of any kind in our college, whether from internal sources – students, staff or directors - or external sources - college community, external agencies or individuals.

It is imperative that our students have a safe place where they can discuss and explore controversial issues safely and in an unbiased way and where our teachers encourage and facilitate this.

As a college, we recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes for our students. We also recognise that if we fail to challenge extremist views we are failing to protect our students.

Extremists of all persuasions aim to develop destructive relationships between different communities by promoting division, fear and mistrust of others based on ignorance or prejudice and thereby limiting the life chances of young people. Education is a powerful weapon against this; equipping young people with the knowledge, skills and critical thinking, to challenge and debate in an informed way. Therefore, at LSST we will provide a broad and balanced curriculum, delivered by skilled professionals, so that our pupils are enriched, understand and become tolerant of difference and diversity and also to ensure that they thrive, feel valued and not marginalised.

We are aware that young people can be exposed to extremist influences or prejudiced views from an early age which emanate from a variety of sources and media, including via the internet, and at times students may themselves reflect or display views that may be discriminatory, prejudiced or extremist, including using derogatory language.

Any prejudice, discrimination or extremist views, including derogatory language, displayed by students, staff and visitors will always be challenged and where appropriate dealt with. Where misconduct by a teacher is proven, the matter will be referred to the National College for Teaching and Leadership for their consideration as to whether a Prohibition Order is warranted.

As part of wider safeguarding responsibilities, college staff will be alert to:

- Disclosures by students of their exposure to the extremist actions, views or materials of others outside of college, such as in their homes or community groups, especially where students have not actively sought these out
- Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images
- Students accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites
- Students voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives
- Use of extremist or ‘hate’ terms to exclude others or incite violence
- Intolerance of difference, whether secular or religious or, in line with our equalities policy, views based on, but not exclusive to, gender, disability, homophobia, race, colour or culture
- Attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others

- Anti-Western or Anti-British views

6. Teaching Approaches

We will all strive to eradicate the myths and assumptions that can lead to some people becoming alienated and disempowered, especially where the narrow approaches student may experience elsewhere may make it harder for them to challenge or question these radical influences. In our college this will be achieved by good teaching and developing a culture which brings awareness of social norms.

The college will ensure that all of our teaching approaches help our students build resilience to extremism and give pupils a positive sense of identity through the development of critical thinking skills. We will ensure that all of our staff are equipped to recognise extremism and are skilled and confident enough to challenge it.

We will be flexible enough to adapt our teaching approaches, as appropriate, so as to address specific issues so as to become even more relevant to the current issues of extremism and radicalisation.

The college will promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs. We will teach and encourage pupils to respect one another and to respect and tolerate difference, especially those of a different faith or no faith. It is indeed our most fundamental responsibility to keep our pupils safe and prepare them for life in modern multi-cultural Britain and globally.

7. Use of External Speakers

At LSST we encourage the use of external speakers to enrich the experiences of our students. However, we will positively vet those external agencies, individuals or speakers who we engage to provide such learning opportunities or experiences for our pupils.

Such vetting is to ensure that we do not unwittingly use agencies that contradict each other with their messages or that are inconsistent with, or are in complete opposition to, the college's values and ethos. We must be aware that in some instances the work of external agencies may not directly be connected with the rest of the college curriculum so we need to ensure that this work is of benefit to our students.

For specific information & guidelines about inviting External Speakers refer to the *External Speakers & Events Policy*. Speakers can be invited and organised by any staff member or a registered student by following the External Speakers and Events Policies guidelines and procedure.

8. Web Filtering

LSST uses the third-party Smoothwall's Secure Web Gateway firewall's security features to actively track and block access to extremist material, and to alert the Prevent Leads or Regional Prevent Coordinators to students or staff whose browsing behaviour may indicate they are at risk of radicalisation.

The Secure Web Gateway uses real-time filtering to ensure it is up to date, rather than relying on URL blocklists, and its safeguarding suite blocks and reports access to content from seven category rulesets including most importantly hate & discrimination, violence, illegal, radicalisation, suicide, and self-harm. Alerts are immediately sent to the IT department by the firewall when content classified under one of these rulesets is accessed, and this can be traced by IP address and log-in details to specific computer and user. Where the content accessed flags up a Prevent risk, such as accessing extremist websites or forums, the IT department will make a Prevent report following the process set out in paragraph 11 below. Safeguarding risks such as suicide, or self-harm, will likewise be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Officers.

LSST does not envision any of its current course offering justifying access to sites in these categories for legitimate research or study. However, should such a requirement arise, specific authorisation must be requested from the Principal (in his capacity as the Prevent Lead), along with fully evidenced written justification as to why access to restricted content is required.

Mobiles, tablets, and staff and student laptop use over wi-fi (BYOD) is restricted to three domains that are subject to web-filtering and reporting through Smoothwall in the same way as the LAN connected desktops:-

LSST-College: only for Domain joined devices such as Laptop trolleys or other staff laptops which we have newly imaged.

LSST-School: for all the users whoever wants to use school internet facilities. This SSID works with our windows logging details (Authentication from Active Directory) which means only authentic users can use the Wi-Fi. Any BOYD device needs to be connected with our Radius server and get the authentication from the AD.

LSST-Public: only for guests or those users who do not have an LSST account. LSST- Public is open and IT generates the access key for the users. It has got very limited speed with highly restricted access privileges.

9. Risk reduction

The Principal, Regional Prevent Coordinators, and Designated Safeguarding Leads will assess the level of risk within the college and put actions in place to reduce that risk. Risk assessment may include staff, student and board members' training and knowledge of the prevent duty, IT and cyber-security, campus or premises security, external speakers, freedom of expression, information sharing, students' unions or organisations, and welfare, pastoral and chaplaincy support. The college will screen staff, visitors and volunteers to ensure that they will not deliver messages of extremism or radicalisation.

10. Responsibilities

Our college, like all others, is required to identify a Prevent Single Point of Contact (SPOC or Prevent Lead) who will be the lead within the organisation for safeguarding in relation to

protecting individuals from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism. The responsibilities of the Prevent Lead are described in Appendix 2.

The Prevent Lead at LSST will be the Principal (Dr George Panagiotou). Additionally, each campus will have a Regional Prevent Co-ordinator, who reports to the Prevent Lead. The Prevent Lead will engage where appropriate with all external agencies, including the Police, Local Authorities, and Regional Channel Coordinators.

Staff at LSST will be alert to the fact that whilst extremism and radicalisation is broadly a safeguarding issue there may be some instances where a student may be at direct risk of harm or neglect. For example; this could be due to students displaying risky behaviours in terms of the activities they are involved in or the groups they are associated with.

Therefore, all staff working in LSST (including visiting staff, volunteers and contractors) are required to report instances where there is potential risk of harm or neglect, or if they have concerns that a student or a member of staff may be at risk of radicalisation or involvement in terrorism in this case. They should speak with the Prevent Lead, Dr George Panagiotou. For staff based at satellite campuses, they should report any Prevent concerns to their LSST Regional Prevent Coordinator.

Attention is drawn to all, that the maintenance of a safe environment in LSST's physical and virtual facilities is imperative. To that end, all stakeholders need to be alert to any such potential threats and fully observe the guidelines of this policy and associated documentation in order to mitigate negative effects and detrimental consequences.

11. Reporting Process

Prevent concerns can be raised by any staff member or student by sending a completed [Radicalism and Extremism Concern](#) form (that can be found on the LSST Connect portal):

- by post (including anonymously) marked for the attention of the Prevent Lead to

Alperton Campus

London School of Science and Technology
First Floor, Alperton House,
Bridgewater Road,
Wembley,
London,
Middlesex
HA0 1EH

Luton Campus

4 Dunstable Road,
Luton,
Bedfordshire,
LU1 1DX

Birmingham Campus

84 Bordesley Street,
Birmingham,

B5 5PN

- by email to :-

drgeorge@lsst.ac (Alperton)

Aqeel.syed@lsst.ac (Luton)

Mohsin.riaz@lsst.ac (Birmingham)

Alternatively, staff or students may approach the Prevent Leads in person for a discreet meeting, or raise Prevent concerns in the course of disciplinary, complaints/grievance, or safeguarding procedures. IT may also refer Prevent concerns through this procedure as a result of a firewall alert as set out at paragraph 8 of this Policy.

A disciplinary matter or complaint will automatically be referred to Prevent Lead where it reveals a potential Prevent concern – e.g. identity fraud or excessive absences that raise concerns about who a student is associating with, or complaints/disciplinary issues concerning racist/homophobia/Islamophobia/anti-Semitism. Disciplinary/grievance/complaints meetings in such cases will usually be chaired by a Prevent Lead or Regional Prevent Coordinator.

12. Channel Referral

‘Channel’ is the safeguarding process which takes a multi-agency case management role in managing the risk of those who have been or are at harm of becoming radicalised. Regional Channel Coordinators are responsible for providing support and expert advice to all police forces and local authorities across the region. The Prevent Lead will discuss cases referred to him as Prevent concerns with Student Support and the Designated Safeguarding Officers, and where appropriate the Regional Channel Coordinators, and decide in each case whether it is appropriate for LSST to refer the case to Channel.

13. Training

LSST is required as part of its Prevent Duty to ensure all staff are aware of their responsibilities under the Prevent Duty to report concerns, and to embody and promote ‘fundamental British values’. LSST also raises awareness of Prevent amongst its students through presentations at the induction, and webinars made available on the VLE.

All new staff are required to complete online Prevent training provided by Foundation Online and provide a copy of their certificate of completion to HR. Additionally, staff in key Prevent related roles (Prevent Leads, HR, Designated Safeguarding Officers, Student Support, and the Work Placements Officers) must undertake ‘WRAP’ training provided online by JISC, and prove this by providing their certificate of completion to HR.

In addition to the formal external training above, staff are given an annual refresher presentation at the Staff Development Training Day covering the following key topics:

- what is Prevent?
- Indicators of vulnerability to radicalisation
- The process of radicalisation
- External speaker screening process
- LSST's internal reporting processes and key contacts

14. Review

This Policy is reviewed annually in October each year, at the end of the HEFCE Prevent annual reporting period (1st October – 30th September), at the same time as review of the Risk Assessment.

Appendix 1 - Indicators of vulnerability to radicalisation

1. Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism.
2. Extremism is defined by the Government 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 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.
3. Extremism is defined by the Crown Prosecution Service as: The demonstration of unacceptable behaviour by using any means or medium to express views which:
 - Encourage, justify or glorify terrorist violence in furtherance of particular beliefs;
 - Seek to provoke others to terrorist acts;
 - Encourage other serious criminal activity or seek to provoke others to serious criminal acts; or
 - Foster hatred which might lead to inter-community violence in the UK
4. There is no such thing as a “typical extremist”: those who become involved in extremist actions come from a range of backgrounds and experiences, and most individuals, even those who hold radical views, do not become involved in violent extremist activity.
5. Pupils may become susceptible to radicalisation through a range of social, personal and environmental factors - it is known that violent extremists exploit vulnerabilities in individuals to drive a wedge between them and their families and communities. It is vital that college staff are able to recognise those vulnerabilities.
6. Indicators of vulnerability include:
 - Identity Crisis – the student is distanced from their cultural / religious heritage and experiences discomfort about their place in society;
 - Personal Crisis – the student may be experiencing family tensions, a sense of isolation and low self-esteem; they may have dissociated from their existing friendship group

and become involved with a new and different group of friends; they may be searching for answers to questions about identity, faith and belonging

- Personal Circumstances – migration, local community tensions, and events affecting the student’s country or region of origin may contribute to a sense of grievance that is triggered by personal experience of racism or discrimination or aspects of Government policy
 - Unmet Aspirations – the student may have perceptions of injustice; a feeling of failure; rejection of civic life
 - Experiences of Criminality – which may include involvement with criminal groups, imprisonment, and poor resettlement / reintegration
 - Special Educational Need – students may experience difficulties with social interaction, empathy with others, understanding the consequences of their actions and awareness of the motivations of others
7. However, this list is not exhaustive, nor does it mean that all young people experiencing the above are at risk of radicalisation for the purposes of violent extremism.
8. More critical risk factors could include:
- Being in contact with extremist recruiters
 - Accessing violent extremist websites, especially those with a social networking element
 - Possessing or accessing violent extremist literature
 - Using extremist narratives and a global ideology to explain personal disadvantage
 - Justifying the use of violence to solve societal issues
 - Joining or seeking to join extremist organisations
 - Significant changes to appearance and / or behaviour
 - Experiencing a high level of social isolation resulting in issues of identity crisis and / or personal crisis

Appendix 2 - Roles and responsibilities of the single point of contact (Prevent Lead)

The Prevent Lead and Regional Prevent Co-ordinator are responsible for:

- Ensuring that staff of the college are aware of him as the Prevent Lead in relation to protecting students from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism
- Maintaining and applying a good understanding of the relevant guidance in relation to preventing students from becoming involved in terrorism, and protecting them from radicalisation by those who support terrorism or forms of extremism which lead to terrorism
- Raising awareness about the role and responsibilities of LSST in relation to protecting students from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism
- Raising awareness within the college about the safeguarding processes relating to protecting students from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism
- Acting as the first point of contact within the college for case discussions relating to students who may be at risk of radicalisation or involved in terrorism
- Sharing any relevant additional information in a timely manner

Appendix 3 - Risk Assessment

As with other higher education institutions, LSST is required to carry out a risk assessment of where and how its students are at risk of being drawn into violent extremism. This includes exposure to an environment of non-violent extremism that may foster acceptance or encouragement of violent extremism.

In carrying out this Risk Assessment, the following have been considered:

- Institutional policies
- Policies and procedures regarding the campus and student welfare, including equality and diversity, and the safety and welfare of students and staff
- IT policies
- Policies and procedures concerning the physical management of the college estate, including policies and procedures for events held by staff, students or visitors and relationships with external bodies and community groups
- Staff, student and board members' training and knowledge of the Prevent duty
- Partnership and leadership
- External speakers and events
- Freedom of speech
- Staff training
- Welfare and pastoral care/chaplaincy support
- Students' Union

Appendix 4 - Key Contacts

1. STAFF AND STUDENTS

Contact	Telephone	Email
Prevent Leads		
Dr George Panagiotou	Ext: 025	drgeorge@lsst.ac
LSST Regional Prevent Coordinators		
Aqeel Syed (Luton)	Ext: 106	aqeel.syed@lsst.ac
Mohsin Riaz (Birmingham)	Ext: 004	mohsin.riaz@lsst.ac
Syed Rizvi (Alperton)	Ext: 022	syed.rizvi@lsst.ac
Police Anti-terrorist Hotline	0800 789 321	
MI5 Threat reporting free-phone	0800 111 4645	

2. STAFF ONLY

Contact	Telephone	Email
HEFCE Prevent Advisor		
Arlene Francis	0117 931 7129	a.francis@hefce.ac.uk
DFE Regional Prevent Coordinators		
<u>Alperton</u> Alamgir Sheriyar Erin MacGalloway	0207 974 5828 0207 974 2662	alamgir.sheriyar@camden.gov.uk erin.macgalloway@camden.gov.uk
<u>Luton</u> David Layton-Scott	07702 948298	dave.layton-scott@luton.gov.uk
<u>Birmingham</u> Hifsa Haroon-Iqbal	07551 136132	Hifsa.Haroon-Iqbal@Education.gov.uk

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) for staff allegations.		
<u>Alperton</u> Sandra Trumper Siobhan McAree Nichola Fraser Child Protection Admin Team	020 8937 4834 Mobile 07867 187007 0208 937 4113 Mobile 07867 184013 0208 937 4791 Mobile 07867 184033 020 8937 3783	Sandra.trumper@brent.gov.uk Siobhan.mcaree@brent.gov.uk
<u>Luton</u> <u>Paul James</u> <u>Melanie Field</u>	 01582 548069 01582 548 069	 paul.james@luton.gcsx.gov.uk melanie.field@luton.gcsx.gov.uk
<u>Birmingham</u> <u>LADO TEAM</u>	 0121 675 1669 0121 464 1334	 Ladoteam@birmingham.gov.uk Lado.secure@birmingham.gcsx.gov.uk
Local Authority Coordinator		
Kibibi Octave (Alperton)	020 8937 4225	Kibibi.octave@brent.gov.uk
Sarah Pinnock (Luton)	01582 546774	sarah.pinnock@luton.gcsx.gov.uk
Waqar Ahmed (Birmingham)	0121 303 7682 07557 203290 (mobile)	waqar.ahmed@birmingham.gov.uk

Prevent Engagement Officer (Police)		
Naomi Conlon (Alperton)	07827 357499	Naomi.Conlon@met.pnn.police.uk
DS 957 Mary Robinson (Luton) (Prevent Sergeant)		BCHPrevent@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk Prevent@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk
PC 2673 Jo Spencer (Birmingham)	07825 112398	joanne.spencer@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk