



PREVENT DUTY POLICY FOR 2025-2026

Reviewed: June 2025

Next Review due: June 2026

Signed off by: Director of Safeguarding, Clare King

Introduction

This policy outlines Bespoke Mentoring's commitment to fulfilling its responsibilities under the Prevent Duty, as mandated by the Counterterrorism and Security Act 2015, to prevent individuals from being drawn into terrorism. It ensures that our bespoke mentoring alternative provision safeguards learners, staff, and visitors from radicalisation and extremism, while promoting a safe, inclusive environment that balances freedom of speech, safeguarding, and compliance with legal obligations.

Scope

This policy applies to all staff, mentors, mentees, volunteers, contractors, and visitors involved in the bespoke mentoring alternative provision. It covers all activities, including on-site and off-site mentoring sessions, online interactions, and events organised or facilitated by the organisation.

Legislative Framework

This policy complies with the following legislation and guidance:

Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (CTSA): Section 26(1) imposes a statutory duty on specified authorities, including alternative provision settings, to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism."

Prevent Duty Guidance: England and Wales (2023): Provides statutory guidance for specified authorities, including education providers, to implement the Prevent Duty effectively.

Alternative Provision Statutory Guidance (2025): Outlines responsibilities for local authorities and alternative provision settings to safeguard learners and comply with legal duties.

Keeping children safe in education 2024' Statutory safeguarding guidance that integrates Prevent as part of broader safeguarding responsibilities.

Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR: Ensures that information sharing for Prevent purposes complies with data protection legislation.

Human Rights Act 1998, Education Act 1986, Education Reform Act 1988, and Equality Act 2010: Ensures the policy balances safeguarding with rights to freedom of speech, academic freedom, and equality.

Definitions

Terrorism: As defined in the Terrorism Act 2000, an action that endangers life, involves serious violence, or creates a serious risk to public safety with the intent to influence the government or intimidate the public for ideological purposes.

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, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

Policy Statement

Bespoke Mentoring is committed to:

Safeguarding: Identifying and supporting individuals at risk of radicalisation, integrating Prevent into existing safeguarding frameworks.

Risk Assessment: Conducting regular risk assessments to identify and mitigate risks of radicalisation within the mentoring provision.

Training: Providing All staff (including volunteers) with Prevent training to recognise signs of radicalisation and understand referral processes.

Partnership: Collaborating with local authorities, police, and Prevent coordinators to ensure effective safeguarding.

Policies and Procedures: Implementing clear policies for IT use, external speakers, and events to prevent the promotion of extremist ideologies.

Inclusion and Wellbeing: Promoting British values and fostering an inclusive environment while safeguarding freedom of speech and equality.

Responsibilities

Senior Management: Ensure compliance with the Prevent Duty, oversee risk assessments, and review policies annually or following significant incidents.

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Clare King clare.king@bespokementoring.org
: Acts as the Prevent lead, coordinates referrals, and liaises with external agencies such as local authority Channel panels.

All Staff

Complete mandatory Prevent training every two years to recognise signs of radicalisation and understand referral processes.

Report concerns about radicalisation to the DSL immediately, using the National Prevent Referral Form where applicable.

Promote British values through mentoring sessions and challenge extremist views appropriately.

Mentees

Engage in mentoring activities that promote critical thinking, resilience to extremism, and respect for diversity.

Report any concerns about radicalisation or extremist behaviour to a trusted staff member or mentor.

Risk Assessment and Mitigation

Risk Assessment: Conduct an annual Prevent risk assessment, informed by local threat profiles from regional Prevent coordinators, police, and local authorities. This includes assessing risks related to mentoring sessions, online activities, and external speakers.

Mitigation Measures:

Implement IT policies with specific reference to the Prevent Duty, including filtering to restrict access to harmful content.

Establish a clear policy for managing external speakers and events, ensuring due diligence to assess risks of extremist views.

Provide bespoke mentoring support tailored to individual vulnerabilities, such as education, employment, or ideological guidance.

Monitor off-site and online mentoring activities to ensure they align with safeguarding and Prevent objectives.

Training and Awareness

All staff and mentors will complete Home Office-approved Prevent training (e.g., Course 3: Channel or Prevent Multi-Agency Panel) upon induction and refresh every two years.

Training will cover:

Recognising signs of radicalisation (e.g., changes in behaviour, extremist rhetoric, or social media activity).

Understanding the Channel process and how to make a referral.

Promoting British values and challenging extremist ideologies safely.

The DSL will maintain records of training completion and ensure access to updated resources from the Prevent Duty Toolkit.

Referral and Support Process

Identification: Staff and mentors should be vigilant for signs of radicalisation, such as expressing extremist views, sudden behavioural changes, or engagement with extremist content online.

Reporting: Concerns must be reported to the DSL immediately. The DSL will assess whether a referral to the local authority Channel panel is necessary using the National Prevent Referral Form.

Channel Process: If referred, the Channel panel, chaired by the local authority, will assess the risk and develop a bespoke support package, which may include mentoring, education, or health support. Consent is required for Channel support (parental consent for those under 18).

Confidentiality: All referrals and information sharing will comply with the Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR, ensuring confidentiality unless there is a lawful basis for sharing (e.g., safeguarding concerns).

IT and Online Safety

The organisation will implement an IT usage policy with specific reference to the Prevent Duty:

Use filtering systems to restrict access to extremist or harmful content, in line with guidance from the Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC).

Provide clear guidelines for mentees and staff researching terrorism or counterterrorism, ensuring safeguarding measures are in place.

Monitor online mentoring sessions to prevent exposure to radicalising influences.

Partnership and Collaboration

The organisation will engage with:

Local authority Prevent coordinators and Channel panels to support referrals and interventions.

Police and regional Department for Education (DfE) Prevent coordinators for advice and risk assessment support.

Monitoring and Review

The DSL and senior management will review this policy annually or following significant changes in legislation, guidance, or local risk profiles.

The organisation will maintain records of Prevent referrals, training, and incidents to demonstrate compliance with the Office for Students (OfS) monitoring requirements (where applicable).

Promoting British Values

Mentoring sessions will actively promote fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

Activities will encourage critical thinking, resilience to extremist narratives, and open debate to challenge misconceptions.

Contact Information

Prevent Lead/DSL: Clare King

Contact: 07483 804136 clare.king@bespokementoring.org

Local Authority Prevent Team: prevent@localauthority.gov.uk

National Police Prevent Advice Line: 0800 011 3764

Emergency: 999

References

Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015
Prevent Duty Guidance: England and Wales (2023)
Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024
Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR
Channel and Prevent Multi-Agency Panel (PMAP) Guidance

Approval

Signed off by: Director of Safeguarding, Clare King in June 2025

