

# Prevent Agenda Policy

**Agreed: March 2023**

**Review date: March 2025**

Since 1st July 2015 all schools and training providers in the education sector have had a due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and or violent extremism; this duty is known as the Prevent Duty. Prevent is one element of the Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy. The Prevent Strategy has three strategic objectives:

- respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it
- prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support
- work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation that we need to address.

The Tommy Flowers SCITT has a statutory duty to address the risk of any form of radicalisation and extremism.

## Definitions

**Radicalism:** This refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism. During the process of radicalisation, it is possible to intervene to prevent vulnerable people from being radicalised.

**Vulnerable individuals:** In the context of radicalisation, a vulnerable individual is a person who, because of unique circumstances, state of mind and life experiences can be led into some form of terrorist ideology. Specific background factors may contribute to vulnerability and susceptibility to radicalization. These are often a combination of specific influences such as family, peer groups or online activities (social media). Other factors may include social exclusion, underachievement, recent religious conversion, rejected by peers, faith, social groups or family, victim or witness to race or religious hate crime, family conflict and identity confusion. Some of these factors may result in a recent change in appearance and or behaviour. Extremists or terrorist also may appear to provide an answer to the specific needs of vulnerable people.

**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. The definition of extremism also includes calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas.

This policy makes it essential that staff and trainees can identify individuals who may be vulnerable to radicalisation, and know what to do when they are identified as part of the widening safeguarding duties, whether these come from within their family or are the product of outside influences.

## Responsibilities

All staff and trainees are required to have an Enhanced DBS check in line with the Safer Recruitment policy. The Safer Recruitment policy outlines the due diligence and checks that Tommy Flowers SCITT staff carry out when processing applications to our courses. All staff must be able to demonstrate both a general understanding of the risks affecting students in the area and a specific understanding of how to identify individual students who may be at risk of radicalisation and what to do to support them.

All publicly-funded schools in England are required by law to teach a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development (SMSC), mental and physical development of pupils and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life. They must also promote fundamental British values and these form part of the responsibilities of teachers under Part 2 of the Teachers' Standards.

## **Training**

All Tommy Flowers SCITT trainees receive Prevent training through the [Government's elearning programme \(Course 1 – Awareness course\)](#). A record of trainees receiving this training is kept on the Tommy Flowers SCITT Single Central Record.

Trainees receive training as part of their course in SMSC and promoting British Values.

## **Referral**

As with managing other safeguarding risks, staff and trainees should be alert to changes in behaviour which could indicate that they may need help or protection. Staff should use their professional judgment in identifying individuals who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately which may include discussing their concerns with the Prevent Duty lead or Safeguarding Lead to make a referral to the Channel programme.

Any member of staff or student may identify concerns about other members of staff or students who are vulnerable to the risk of being drawn into violent extremism, based on information they have received or behaviour they or other individuals may have observed recently.

Where a trainee identifies concerns about an individual, they should follow their school's safeguarding procedures in making internal referrals. Tommy Flowers SCITT staff who are visiting a partnership school (including Assessment Only and End-Point Assessment employing schools) should also follow that partnership school's safeguarding procedures in making internal referrals. The Prevent Lead may then follow the school's procedures in making an external referral.

A concern which needs to be raised out of normal office hours should be raised in the first instance with the school's Prevent Lead. If there is an immediate concern of danger to life or harm the correct referral process is to call 999 and then inform the Prevent Lead at the earliest opportunity.

## **Concerns about Tommy Flowers SCITT staff, trainees, AO candidates and EPA apprentices**

Where a placement school has a concern about a member of the Tommy Flowers SCITT staff, they should follow the procedures identified in the Tommy Flowers SCITT Safeguarding Policy for referring to the employing head teacher or LADO.

Where any school has concern about their trainee teacher, they should follow their own Safeguarding and Prevent policies and refer the trainee to the Tommy Flowers SCITT in line with the Tommy Flowers SCITT's safeguarding policy.