



Prevent Policy

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Prevent strategy is part of the Government's counter-terrorism strategy, and aims to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorist attacks by stopping people from being drawn into terrorism. This Policy responds to the University's obligations under the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (hereafter the Act), noting also the provisions of the Terrorism Act 2000.
- 1.2 Young people make up a disproportionately high number of those arrested in the UK for terrorist-related offences, and the Act places responsibilities on universities to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. The Act also notes that Universities must seek to balance this duty with their commitment to freedom of speech and the importance of academic freedom.
- 1.3 This policy sets out how AUB responds to its legal duties with regard to the Prevent duty, including partnership with other agencies, and engagement with the Channel process (a supportive cross-agency intervention to support those who are vulnerable to radicalisation), and balances this against its commitment to freedom of speech.
- 1.4 Prevent duties are a form of safeguarding and this policy should be read in conjunction with AUB's Safeguarding Policy.

2. Principles

- 2.1 The Arts University Bournemouth is committed to ensuring that young and vulnerable people are safeguarded from being drawn into terrorism. As such, all staff should understand their responsibilities to safeguard and promote the welfare of young and vulnerable people, including the duty to prevent young people from being drawn into terrorism and to challenge extremist ideas that support or are shared by terrorist groups.
- 2.2 In consideration of its Prevent duties the University has particular regard to the duty to ensure freedom of speech, and to the importance of academic freedom.
- 2.3 Any student or staff member may conduct legitimate research into sensitive or extremism-related subjects; all research should comply with the processes set out in the AUB Research Ethics Policy.

3. Definitions

- 3.1 Terrorism:

The Terrorism Act 2000 defines terrorism as: "The use or threat of action designed to influence the government or an international governmental organisation or to intimidate the public, or a section of the public; made for the purposes of advancing a political, religious, racial or ideological cause; and it involves or causes:

- serious violence against a person;
- serious damage to a property;
- a threat to a person's life;
- a serious risk to the health and safety of the public; or
- serious interference with or disruption to an electronic system."

3.2 Extremism:

Extremist beliefs are those which directly contravene values which are fundamental to British culture and society.

3.3 Radicalisation:

A process whereby someone has their vulnerabilities or susceptibilities exploited towards terrorism or crime – most often by a third party with their own agenda.

4. Prevent responsibilities and training

4.1 Prevent is the responsibility of all members of University staff. All staff must maintain an awareness of Prevent duties and undertake relevant training where required.

4.2 Prevent is a form of safeguarding – any concerns should be referred to the University's Prevent Implementation / Safeguarding Team. The Head of Student Services acts as the AUB's Prevent Lead and point of contact.

4.3 All AUB staff who are required to undergo an enhanced DBS check will undertake training in the Prevent agenda. Additional staff may also be required to undertake training, as identified by the Prevent Implementation / Safeguarding Team or line managers; this is likely to include staff who are working for an externally-contracted service provider.

5. Reporting issues and raising concerns

5.1 The University recognises that reporting concerns about students can be difficult. AUB staff are not expected to be experts in recognising radicalisation, and staff are reminded that the Prevent duty is concerned with pre-criminal activity. It is therefore important to act if there are any concerns regarding the safety and welfare of students, including concerns about potential extremist views.

5.2 Any Prevent concerns should be communicated to either the AUB Prevent Lead, or one of the nominated Safeguarding Officers at the earliest opportunity. All concerns, allegations or complaints will be taken seriously and the Prevent Implementation / Safeguarding Team will implement actions as appropriate, including referral to the Counter-Terrorism Channel panel. It is recognised that not all concerns will require referral to the Channel process, and the AUB Prevent Implementation / Safeguarding Team will seek advice from the regional Prevent Lead as appropriate.

5.3 The University will support any student or member of staff referred to a Channel panel (for example, in providing time off to attend meetings). Any arrangement would

be subject to review after 6 months to ensure that support is relevant and appropriate.

- 5.4 All information relating to any Prevent issue should be managed confidentially. Information should only be disseminated on a “need to know” basis, and should be stored securely, in accordance with GDPR.

6. External speakers and events on campus

- 6.1 The University is legally obliged to ensure that speakers or events taking place on any AUB premises, or within any AUB activities, are not encouraging terrorism.

- 6.2 Any event taking place on any AUB premises, or within any AUB activities, is subject to the *AUB Code on Freedom of Speech (incorporating External Speakers Policy)*. The policy includes the premises occupied by the Arts University Students' Union (AUBSU).

7. Use of University computing and networking facilities

- 7.1 The *AUB Acceptable Use Policy* sets out the University's expectations relating to the use of all computing and networking facilities provided by the University, and explicitly notes that the University network and computing facilities should not be used to access or distribute material which may encourage terrorism.

- 7.2 Any member of staff or student who may require access to sensitive or terrorism-related material for academic purposes should contact the Head of Digital Campus Services prior to accessing it from the University network to ensure that this access is properly authorised.

8. Welfare and chaplaincy

- 8.1 AUB recognises that implementing the Prevent duty is a responsibility that applies to all staff. Nevertheless, some roles have a greater responsibility for the pastoral care of students, and may involve working with students who are young or those at risk. All AUB staff who are required to undergo an enhanced DBS check will undertake training in the Prevent agenda. Additional staff may also be required to undertake training, as identified by the Safeguarding Team or line managers; this is likely to include staff who are working for an externally-contracted service provider.

- 8.2 The AUB Chaplaincy is shared with Bournemouth University, and is an inclusive chaplaincy, open to people of all faiths, or none. Use of all Chaplaincy facilities, including prayer rooms and meeting rooms, is subject to the approval of the Lead Chaplain. The Lead Chaplain will undertake training in the Prevent agenda and will support both Universities in complying with their Prevent duties.

- 8.3 In the event of any issues relating to Chaplaincy activities or the use of AUB Chaplaincy facilities, the Lead Chaplain should utilise existing line management and reporting structures within the Universities.

9. Partnership

- 9.1 In implementing its Prevent duty, the University will actively engage with regional and national partners, including police, Office for Students and Counter Terrorism Intelligence Unit representatives.
- 9.2 The Head of Student Services is a member of the Pan Dorset Prevent Group and is a Home Office accredited WRAP (Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent) trainer.

10. Risk assessment

- 10.1 In order to comply with the Prevent Duty, the Arts University Bournemouth has undertaken a risk assessment to assess where and how students might be at risk of being drawn into terrorism, including non-violent extremism which may popularise views which terrorists may exploit.
- 10.2 A corresponding Action Plan forms part of the Risk Assessment, and is reviewed termly as part of regular Prevent Implementation / Safeguarding Team meetings.

**To contact a member of the AUB Prevent Implementation /
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