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Prevent Strategy

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Distribution			
	All Staff		
Reference Number		Version	
	PS		5.0
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Issue date			
	01.06.2024		
Review date			
	01.06.2025		

DOCUMENT CONTROL

Version	Name	Comment	Date
1.0	A Dann	Change to threat level updated	08.02.2021
2.0	A Dann	Annual Review	06.04.2022
3.0	F.Hand	Review and links & contacts refreshed	11.05.2023
4.0	B. Waite	Review and updated to Group Policy	29.09.2023
5.0	A.Dann	Review and inclusion of BePro and ECTA, updated all Prevent coordinator details	01.06.2024

For the purpose of clarity, the term "B2W" refers to the family of B2W Group organisations — Back to Work Complete Training, Just IT, BePro and ECTA.

^{*}B2W partners will be notified of any PREVENT concerns*

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1.0 Introduction

Prevent is a strand of the Government counter terrorism strategy CONTEST, which has four elements: Pursue, Protect, Prepare and Prevent. Prevents aim is to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. The UK faces a range of terrorist threats. All the terrorist groups who pose a threat to us seek to radicalise and recruit people to their cause. The government's previous definition of Extremism was "the vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs". The government also regards calls for the death of members of our armed forces as extremist.

It has now been modified to state that extremism is: "the promotion or advancement of an ideology based on violence, hatred or intolerance, that aims to:

- 1. negate or destroy the fundamental rights and freedoms of others; or
- 2. undermine, overturn, or replace the UK's system of liberal parliamentary democracy and democratic rights; or
- 3. intentionally create a permissive environment for others to achieve the results in (1) or (2)."

2.0 The Prevent strategy seeks to:

- Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and aspects of extremism, and the threat we face from those who promote these views.
- Provide practical help to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure they
 are given appropriate advice and support.
- Work with a wide range of sectors where there are risks of Radicalisation which need to be addressed, including education, criminal justice, faith, charities, the internet, and health service.
- Intervene early to support people susceptible to radicalisation.
- Enable people who have already engaged in terrorism to disengage and rehabilitate.

A system of threat levels has been created which represents the likelihood of an attack in the near future.

3.0 National Threat Levels

The five levels are:

- Low an attack is highly unlikely.
- Moderate an attack is possible but not likely.
- Substantial an attack is likely.
- **Severe** an attack is highly likely.
- **Critical** an attack is highly likely in the near future.

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National Threat Level

Date	Threat Level
9 February 2022	SUBSTANTIAL
15 November 2021	SEVERE
4 February 2021	SUBSTANTIAL
3 November 2020	SEVERE
4 November 2019	SUBSTANTIAL
23 July 2019	SEVERE

Threat Levels | MI5 - The Security Service

The Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre (JTAC) has lowered the UK threat level to:

• **Substantial** - meaning an attack is likely.

In reaching an assessment on the appropriate threat level, several factors are considered.

These include:

- Available intelligence. This will often involve making judgements about the threat based on a range of information, which is often fragmentary, including the level and nature of current terrorist activity, comparison with events in other countries and previous attacks. Intelligence is only ever likely to reveal part of the picture.
- Terrorist capability. An examination of what is known about what a terrorist could do based on previous attacks or from intelligence.
- Terrorist intentions. Using intelligence and publicly available information to examine the overall aims of the terrorists and the ways they may achieve them including what sort of targets they would consider attacking.
- Timescale. The threat level expresses the likelihood of an attack in the near term. We know from past incidents that some attacks take years to plan, while others are put together more quickly. In the absence of specific intelligence, a judgement will need to be made about how close an attack might be to fruition.

Independent Learning Providers have a large number of learners aged 16 plus, and in particular young people from ethnically diverse, and socially and economically disadvantaged areas. The age and profile of our learners makes it crucial to be involved in the Prevent strategy. Training Providers have a part to play in fostering shared values and promoting cohesion. That should focus on the risks of violent extremism, which represents the greatest

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threat at national level, while recognising that other forms of violence and extremism can and do manifest themselves within colleges and other training settings.

4.0 Objectives

This strategy has five key objectives:

- **1.** To raise awareness, promote and reinforce shared values; to create space for free and open debate; to think critically, consider alternative interpretations and viewpoints and to listen and support the learner in making informed decisions regarding local, national and international issues.
- **2**. To break down segregation among different student communities including by supporting inter-faith and inter-cultural dialogue and understanding, and to engage all students in playing a full and active role in wider engagement in society.
- **3**. To ensure learner safety and that the B2W group is free from bullying, harassment and discrimination.
- **4.** To provide support for learners who may be at risk and appropriate sources of advice and guidance.
- **5.** To ensure that learners and staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities in preventing violent extremism.

In order to achieve these objectives, the strategy will concentrate on five areas detailed below and will be embedded through the Prevent action plan which will be reviewed by the Safeguarding team.

5.0 Safer recruitment

- Prevent sits within safeguarding at B2W. Safeguarding procedures are well established and understood by staff.
- Whilst Prevent generally sits within safeguarding other policies and procedures will contribute:
 - Equality & Diversity Policy
 - Anti-Bullying Policy
 - Whistleblowing Policy
- All staff will have access to high quality teaching, learning and assessment resources in order to support excellence in Equality and Diversity and the embedding of Prevent and Fundamental British Values across the organisation.

6.0 Staff

 It is every staff member's responsibility to respond appropriately to learners whose behaviours are challenging and inappropriate. It is recognised that some staff require support and encouragement to develop and use the skills required to challenge appropriately.

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- The provider has updated the Guidance for Safe Working Practices with Learners which identifies the behaviours expected of staff. Further training and development sessions are scheduled as part of the Providers staff development plan to ensure continual awareness-raising to ensure that all safeguarding procedures are in place.
- A programme of awareness training will take place to clarify and reinforce practice around the Prevent agenda and the Channel process.

7.0 Teaching, learning and support for learners.

- B2W systematically reviews its performance to ensure it narrows the attainment gap with vulnerable or disadvantaged groups/communities.
- Providing a curriculum which promotes knowledge, skills and understanding in order to build the resilience of all learners, by undermining extremist ideology and supporting the learner voice.

This will be achieved through:

- Embedding equality, diversity and inclusion across the curriculum and promoting community cohesion
- Promoting wider skill development such as social emotional wellbeing Developing a curriculum which recognises local needs, challenges extremism and promotes universal rights.
- Teaching and learning strategies which explore controversial issues in a waywhich promotes equality, diversity and inclusion.
- Use of external organisations to support learning and promote respect.
- Inclusion within the OTLAs

8.0 Learners

- To ensure that the organisation community remains safe the following support will be in place for learners:
- Effective support services which provide clear information, advice and guidance on preventing learners from being drawn into extremism and radicalisation
- Literature written in clear and simple language which promotes equality, diversity and inclusion and undermines extremist ideology.
- Support for learners and staff and guidance on how to access support through community partners.
- Clear channels of communication to listen to the voice of the local community and understand local tensions.
- Support for at risk learners through safeguarding and mentoring processes.
- A focus on closing the achievement gaps for all learners.

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9.0 Access and monitoring of IT Systems

In order to safeguard individuals from accessing extremist materials while using company equipment B2W will ensure:

- There is the ability to log and retain records of all electronic communication (web browsing, email exchanges etc.,) by users on the organisation network.
- Appropriate staff are able to monitor any aspects of its telephone, mobile phones and computing facilities that are made available to staff, learners, and visitors.
- Only organisation approved software will be supported by the organisation and allowed to be used.
- All unauthorised software that breaches organisation policy or presents a risk to staff or learner safety will be removed and appropriate action taken.
- All unusual or suspicious events, and any breaches of security are reported via the safeguarding reporting channels for further investigation.

10.0 Local / National Partnerships (Appendix 1)

B2W has established working partnerships with the police across a range of programme areas and via the safeguarding team.

External links

- Prevent duty guidance: England and Wales (2023) GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
- Gov.UK- Report Extremism in Education Start
- Anti-terrorism hotline 0800 789 321.
- ACT Early ACT Early assist in preventing radicalisation and extremism by acting early <u>ACT Early | Prevent radicalisation</u> and contact their support line on 0800 011 3764.

If you are concerned about a learner or staff member- Contact the safeguarding team: safeguarding at B2Wgroup.com.

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Appendix one- Prevent Coordinators

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Appendix one:- FE/HE Regional Prevent Coordinators

