

# MPCT<sup>TM</sup>

Motivational Preparation College for Training

## S002 – Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation



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e.g. Version 1

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# Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation

## 1. Introduction

1.1 MPCT is committed to providing a secure environment for learners. This Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation policy draws upon the government's Prevent Strategy and the guidance contained in the DfE Guidance, 'Keeping Children Safe in Education', 'Prevent: Duty Guide' and 'Tackling Extremism in the UK'. We also adhere to Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (the Act) places a duty on certain bodies ("specified authorities" listed in Schedule 6 to the Act), in the exercise of their functions, to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism".

1.2 The duty is likely to be relevant to fulfilling other responsibilities such as the duty arising from section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.

## 2. Scope.

This policy has been developed to support all staff and Learners to identify and prevent against extremism and radicalisation. It applies to all staff, volunteers, and Learners at MPCT.

## 3. Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation

3.1 When applying this policy MPCT uses the following accepted governmental definition of extremism, which is:

- a. "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; and/or calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas."

3.2 Radicalisation is closely linked to extremism and is defined by the Home Office as:

- a. "The process by which people come to support terrorism and violent extremism and, in some cases, then join terrorist groups."

3.3 There is no place for extremist views of any kind at MPCT, whether from internal sources – Learners or staff; or external sources – employers, parents, external agencies or individuals. Our Learners see our centres as a safe place where they can explore controversial issues safely and where our training programme encourages and facilitate this – we have a duty to ensure this happens.

3.4 MPCT recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes for learners and so should be addressed as a safeguarding concern as set out in this policy.

35 MPCT also recognise that if we fail to challenge extremist views we are failing to protect our learners.

36 Extremists of all persuasions aim to develop destructive relationships between different communities by promoting division, fear and mistrust of others. This is 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.

37 MPCT provides a broad and balanced programme, delivered by skilled Instructors/tutors, so that our learners are enriched, understand and become tolerant of difference and diversity and also to ensure that they thrive, feel valued and not marginalised.

38 MPCT will promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. Furthermore, MPCT 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 learners may themselves reflect or display views that may be discriminatory, prejudiced or extremist, including using derogatory language.

39 Any prejudice, discrimination or extremist views, including derogatory language, displayed by learners or staff will always be challenged and where appropriate dealt with in line with our Code of Behaviour for staff and Disciplinary Policy for staff and learners.

3.10 All staff must report any safeguarding and Prevent concerns to MPCT Lead Safeguarding Officer (LSO) Richard Erskine or in his absence (Director of Risk Management Steve Williams).

## **4. Prevent Responsibilities**

4.1 As part of the wider safeguarding responsibilities MPCT centre staff will be responsible for the identification of concerns, which might include:

- a. Disclosures by learners of their exposure to the extremist actions, views or materials of others outside our centres, such as in their homes or community groups, especially where learners have not actively sought these out.
- b. Graffiti symbols, writing or artwork promoting extremist messages or images.
- c. Learners accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites, expression of extremist views including on Facebook, Twitter and in particular when using IT and the Internet within the college. Refer to MPCT IT/E-Safety Policy and use of the Internet; ensuring only sites visited are part of a lesson/research as interacted by MPCT Instructors/Tutors.

- d. Any evidence of family concern about vulnerability to extremism or third party reports of concerns about behaviour. For example, plans to travel abroad or engaging in extremist activities.
- e. Partner providers, when on any outreach events such as Military camps, showing any expression of views, which are discriminatory against any particular groups or individuals.
- f. Learners voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives
- g. Use of extremist or “hate” terms to exclude others or incite violence
- h. Intolerance of difference, whether secular or religious or, in line with respecting difference or views based on, but not exclusive to, gender, disability, homophobia, race, colour or culture.
- i. Attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others.
- j. Anti-Western or Anti-British views.
- k. If you have any concerns about the behaviour of individuals then discuss this with your LDSL (Local Designated Safeguarding Lead) or with the LSO.

42 MPCT will closely follow any locally agreed procedure as set out by the Local Authority and governmental direction within which we operate and act on criteria for safeguarding individuals vulnerable to extremism and radicalisation.

## **5. MPCT approach**

51 In our training centres, and throughout the learner journey at MPCT, we will strive to eradicate the myths and assumptions that can lead to some young people becoming alienated and disempowered, by ensuring our programme is enriched and diverse to be able to give approaches where learners may challenge or question these radical influences:

- a. Establish or use existing mechanisms for understanding the risk of radicalisation.
- b. Ensure staff understand the risk and build the capabilities to deal with it and effective reporting system linked with MPCT Safeguarding of Learners.
- c. Communicate and promote the importance of the Policy.
- d. Ensure staff implement the Policy effectively.

52 MPCT will develop strategies and staff training to ensure that all of our staff are equipped to recognise extremism and are skilled and confident enough to

challenge it.

53 MPCT will promote the 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 learners to respect one another and to respect and tolerate difference, especially those of a different faith or no faith.

54 MPCT's goal is to build mutual respect and understanding and to promote the use of dialogue not violence as a form of conflict resolution. MPCT will help support learners who may be vulnerable to such influences as part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities and where we believe a learner is being directly affected by extremist materials or influences we will ensure that the learner is offered mentoring and possibly through referral. Additionally, in such instances we will seek external support from the Local Authority and/or local partnership structures working to prevent extremism.

## **6. Whistle Blowing**

6.1 Where there are concerns of extremism or radicalisation Learners and Staff are duty bound to make use of MPCT internal systems to whistle blow or raise any issue in confidence. See MPCT Whistleblowing Policy.

## **7. Safeguarding**

7.1 Please refer to MPCT Safeguarding for Learners policy for the full procedural framework on our safeguarding duties.

7.2 MPCT will be alert to the fact that extremism and radicalisation is also a safeguarding issue and thus there may be instances where Learners may be at direct risk of harm or neglect. For example, this could be due to a learner displaying risky behaviours in terms of the activities they are involved in or the groups they are associated with or staff may be aware of information about a learner's family that may equally place a young person at risk of harm. All instances where they believe a young person may be at risk of harm or neglect should be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead and treated as a safeguarding concern in line with policy.

## **8. Role of MPCT Lead Safeguarding Officer**

8.1 MPCT Designated Safeguarding Lead works in line with the responsibilities as set out at Annex B of the DfE Guidance "Keeping Children Safe in Education".

8.2 The Lead Safeguarding Officer (LSO) will be the Head of Safeguarding & Operational Compliance Richard Erskine, and the focus operationally will be the Regional Operations Managers who will be the Local Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).

8.3 The role of the DSL will include the responsibilities of the

PREVENT strand of the Government's counter-terrorism strategy (CONTEST). The LSO and LDSL will also support any referrals to the CHANNEL system, which is an early intervention multi-agency process, designed to safeguard vulnerable people.

## **9. Training**

9.1 All staff will receive training on Safeguarding at least every two years and will include training on extremism and radicalisation and its safeguarding implications.

9.2 The Designated Safeguarding Leads and other key staff will attend external training courses as necessary on extremism and radicalisation and its safeguarding implications every two years.

## **10. Recruitment**

10.1 MPCT will ensure DBS checks are always made at the appropriate level, that references are always received and checked and that we complete and maintain a record of such vetting checks.

10.2 MPCT will apply safer recruitment best practice principles and sound employment practice in general and in doing so will deny opportunities for inappropriate recruitment or advancement. Therefore, by adhering to safer recruitment best practice techniques and by ensuring that there is an on-going culture of vigilance within our staff and learners we will minimise the opportunities for extremist views to prevail.

## **11. Implementation of Policy.**

11.1 The Director of Risk Management is responsible for the implementation of this policy and monitoring the understanding and application of the procedures within as our overall duty to safeguard learners.

## **12. Related Policies and Procedures**

12.1 Safeguarding of Learners.

12.2 Safer Recruitment.

12.3 IT.

12.4 Discipline

12.5 Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE, Revised 2018)

12.6 All Wales Safeguarding Policy.