



## ANTI-RADICALISATION AND EXTREMISM POLICY

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<b>Next review:</b>	October 2023 or when there is a change in circumstances, in work practices or the introduction of new legislation.
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This policy meets all the requirements of SEN and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice. It will be reviewed annually or when there is a change in circumstances, in work practices or the introduction of new legislation.

# Anti-Radicalisation and Extremism Policy

## Introduction

Preventing vulnerable individuals from being drawn into terrorism is a safeguarding issue and College policies and procedures are in place to help safeguard staff and students should consider the Prevent requirements.

All schools and colleges are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter –terrorism and security Act 2015 in the exercise of their functions to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. This duty is known as the Prevent duty.

When operating this policy, LifeBridge uses the following accepted Governmental definition of extremism which is

*“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”.*

**Radicalisation** refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups. **Terrorism** is an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people; causes serious damage to property; or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause.

All **extremists** aim to develop destructive relationships between different communities by promoting division, fear and mistrust of others based on ignorance or prejudice and thereby limiting the life chances of young people. LifeBridge understands that the education we provide can be a powerful weapon against this; equipping young people with the knowledge, skills and critical thinking, to challenge and debate in an informed way.

## Key Principles

**1 Safeguarding:** Preventing vulnerable individuals from being drawn into terrorism is a safeguarding issue and College policies and procedures in place to help safeguard staff and students should consider the Prevent requirements.

**2 Education, Our Curriculum and British Values:** As a college, we recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes for students. The College does not tolerate extremist views of any kind whether from internal sources; learners, staff or governors, or external sources; college community, external agencies or individuals.

Our learners see our college as a safe place, free from harm or risk of harm and where necessary we will action referrals or processes to ensure the college remains a safe place for all. We also recognise that if we fail to challenge extremist views, we are failing to protect our students. As part of our tutorial/PSD programme we endeavour to ensure that students understand and become tolerant of difference and diversity. We will ensure that every learner feels valued and not marginalized. Any prejudice, discrimination or extremist views, including derogatory language, displayed by students or staff will always be challenged and where appropriate dealt with in accordance with our student behaviour management policy.

LifeBridge students will encounter a variety of learning programmes and tutorials that explore safeguarding issues and enable students to become educated against the threats and harm of extremism and the threats of being drawn into terrorism.

**3. Staff awareness:** Staff should be made aware of the Prevent strategy and must undergo online prevent training each year.

As part of wider safeguarding responsibilities, college staff will be alert to:

- The importance of promoting British Values through both the curriculum and as part of the Personal Development and welfare strategy.
- Disclosures by students, of their exposure to extremist actions, views or materials of others outside, such as in their homes or community groups, especially where students have not actively sought these out
- Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images
- Students accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites
- Parental reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance
- Partner colleges, local authority services, and police reports of issues affecting students in other colleges or settings
- Students voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives
- Use of extremist or 'hate' terms to exclude others or incite violence
- Intolerance of difference, whether secular or religious or, in line with our Equalities Policy, views based on, but not exclusive to, gender, disability, homophobia, race, colour or culture
- Attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others
- Anti-Western or Anti-British views

**4. Raising Concerns:** Where there are concerns of terrorism, extremism or radicalisation, students and staff will report them to the Designated Safeguarding Lead/ Deputy Designated safeguarding or any member of staff. The internal procedure for reporting and referring safeguarding concerns will apply unless the threat is immediate and life threatening in which case the police will be contacted. All information regarding concerns will be fed immediately through the police, social care, prevent and any other agency that the college deem appropriate to contact. The college will engage actively with the police and the **Channel process** working with the counter terrorism police to ensure that the college remains a safe place. The college will endeavour to keep in regular contact with the student during this process.

#### **(The Channel Process)**

Channel is an early intervention multi agency panel designed to safeguard vulnerable individuals from being drawn into extremist or terrorist behaviour. Channel works in a similar way to existing multi agency partnerships for vulnerable individuals. It is a voluntary process allowing the individual to withdraw from the programme at any time.

Channel is for individuals of any age who are at risk of exploitation by extremist or terrorist ideologies. Early intervention can prevent individuals being drawn into terrorist related activity in a similar way to criminal activity such as drugs, knife or gang crime. The Channel Panel is chaired by the local authority and works with multi agency partners to collectively assess the risk to an individual and decide whether an intervention

is necessary. If a Channel intervention is required, the Panel works with local partners to develop an appropriate individualised support package. Partnership involvement ensures that those at risk have access to a wide range of support. The support package is monitored closely and reviewed regularly by the Channel Panel. Anyone can make a referral to Channel.

**Role of Governing Body:** The Governing Body of our College will undertake appropriate training to ensure that they are clear about their role and the parameters of their responsibilities as Governors, including their statutory safeguarding duties. The Governing Body of our College will support the ethos and values of our College and will support the college in tackling extremism and radicalisation. In line with the provisions set out in the DfE guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2020' the Governing Body will challenge the College's senior management team on the delivery of this policy and monitor its effectiveness. Governors will review this policy annually and may amend and adopt it outside of this timeframe in accordance with any new legislation or guidance.