St Peter's College Prevent Policy

Approved by the Governing Body on 27 April 2016; most recently amended on 4 December 2024

1. This document has been prepared in response to Statutory guidance issued under section 29 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

2. The College recognises that it has a duty to comply with the above Act, but that principles of free expression, academic freedom, autonomy, confidentiality and respect for privacy, according to law, provide the overarching context within which the Prevent duty is to be considered.

3. The College also recognises that it:
   • must prioritise and protect free expression and academic freedom, holding the primacy of these values in institutions of higher education;
   • must secure and protect the rights of academics, students and staff to hold, articulate and act upon their political, religious and ideological opinions at all times, within the law, and subject only to their contractual agreements and terms of employment; and
   • must respect the rights of academics, students and staff to confidentiality and privacy, in the absence of a risk of serious crime, subject only to their contractual agreements and terms of employment.

4. Prevent training needs to ensure that practice does not undermine, and remains subject to, the rights of academics, students, staff and visiting speakers under existing law, including the Education (No 2) Act 1986, the Human Rights Act 1998, the Human Rights Act 1998 and data protection legislation, and as outlined in para 3 above.

5. Compliance with Prevent duty is included in the College's Risk Register and reviewed annually by Governing Body when making its annual report to the Office for Students, and College policies relating to Confidentiality, IT, Room Booking, External Events and Freedom of Speech are regularly reviewed to ensure that they give proper context to the Prevent duty.

6. The College ensures that all students and staff are aware of how to access appropriate facilities for those of all faiths and none; the College website links to central University information.

7. The *Cause For Concern* procedure is: any College student or staff member with concerns that a student or member of staff is being drawn into terrorism should contact the Prevent lead.

8. Key individuals are nominated by Governing Body with primary responsibility in the College for the Prevent Duty, and the Governing Body and College staff are made aware of the identity of the Key individuals.

Key individuals within the College with responsibility for the Prevent Duty:

- The Prevent Lead for the College is Dr Tim Mawson. The College Prevent Lead has special responsibility for the Prevent duty and will report to Governing Body annually;
- Those with senior responsibility for student welfare and discipline in college include Master, Dean (supported by the Junior Deans), Senior Tutor, Tutor for Graduates, Tutor for Undergraduates, Tutor for Welfare and Dean for Welfare;
- Those with senior responsibility for domestic and ancillary staff welfare in college include Bursar, Domestic Bursar, and Dean for Welfare.

9.   The Prevent Lead receives information through the University's security service from the local Prevent co-ordinator, and shares that information with colleagues in St Peter's and in other colleges and the University as necessary. The College website links to central University Prevent information.

10.   The JCR and MCR are included in the development of relevant policies and communication of these policies to student members. The Right to Freedom of Speech is included in the JCR constitution.

11.   Events and venue hire will be made in accordance with the Governing Body's Freedom of Speech Statement and all student bookings for student external speaker events will be approved by the Prevent Lead or their deputy. Academics are responsible for risk-assessing their own events. Group booking is to be in accord with College policy. All bookings are to consider security implications.

12.   Management and use of College faith facilities are governed by specific protocols published on the College website.

13.   Key Individuals in College receive appropriate training, including rights training. The Governing Body receive suitable briefings on Prevent.

14.   Users of all College IT systems are required to abide by all applicable laws and by the University IT policies as a strict condition of use. The College's Information Security Strategy and Framework gives guidance on how to report a breach of IT use or incident as necessary.

15.   The College Governing Body reviews risk assessments and the related action plan annually.

16.   This College policy is to be read in conjunction with the *Code of Practice on Meetings and Events* and the *Safeguarding Policy* (located on the Policies and documents page of the College website).

17.   This College policy is to be read in conjunction with the University of Oxford's Prevent Duty policy.

18.   Key University contacts for Prevent are listed on the University website.