Cardiff Academy

POLICY /// STUDENT WELFARE AND SAFEGUARDING

Prevent Duty Policy

How Cardiff Academy meets the expectations of the Prevent duty – leadership, risk assessment and action plan, staff training, IT filtering, external speakers and events, welfare support, and referral of concerns – while protecting free speech and promoting fundamental British values.

REFERENCE	**CA-WEL-02**	VERSION	**1.0 (Approved)**
POLICY OWNER	**Designated Safeguarding Lead (Prevent Lead)**	APPROVED BY	**Board of Governors**
ISSUE DATE	**October 2026**	APPROVAL DATE	**October 2026**
REVIEW CYCLE	**Annual**	NEXT REVIEW DUE	**October 2027**
APPLIES TO	**All staff, governors, contractors; students (summary)**	PUBLISHED	**Website; staff portal**

RELATED POLICIES CA-WEL-01 Safeguarding and Child Protection; CA-GOV-09 Freedom of Speech and External Speakers; CA-INF-03 Online Safety and Acceptable Use; CA-WEL-06 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion; CA-HSE-04 Site Security and Visitors

LEGAL ENTITY Cardiff Education Group Ltd, trading as Cardiff Academy (Company No. 14569122). Registered office: 168 City Road, Cardiff CF24 3JE. Teaching premises: 8 Drake Walk, Cardiff CF10 4LG

1 Policy statement

Cardiff Academy is committed to protecting students from being drawn into terrorism and extremist ideologies that can lead to terrorism. We treat Prevent as part of our wider safeguarding duty. Whether or not the Academy is a "specified authority" under the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (the duty applies to further education providers above a size threshold and to registered independent schools), we follow the **Prevent duty guidance (2023)** as good practice and because our partner universities and inspectors expect it.

We also value free speech and open debate. Prevent does not stop students discussing controversial issues; it supports a safe environment in which they can do so (CA-GOV-09).

2 Objectives

- to have effective leadership and partnership working on Prevent
- to understand the risks of radicalisation in our setting and act on them
- to make sure staff can recognise and respond to concerns
- to reduce access to terrorist and extremist material online
- to manage external speakers and events
- to support vulnerable students and refer concerns appropriately
- to promote fundamental British values: democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

3 Leadership and partnership

- The **DSL is the Prevent Lead** and a member of the SLT. The nominated governor for safeguarding oversees Prevent.
- The Prevent Lead maintains contact with the Cardiff Council Prevent Coordinator and South Wales Police Prevent team, attends local briefings where possible, and keeps up to date with local risks.
- Prevent is a standing item at the Safeguarding and Welfare Group.

4 Risk assessment and action plan

The Prevent Lead completes a **Prevent risk assessment** at least annually, covering: the student profile (including age, nationality, vulnerability); local and online risks; leadership and training; external speakers and events; IT filtering and monitoring; welfare and pastoral support; prayer and faith facilities; partnerships; and use of premises by external groups. Actions are recorded in the **Prevent Action Plan**, reviewed termly by the Safeguarding and Welfare Group and annually by the Board.

5 Staff training

- All staff complete **Prevent awareness training** (for example the Home Office Prevent duty training: Awareness course) at induction and refresh it at least every **two years**.
- The Prevent Lead and Deputy DSLs complete more in-depth training, refreshed at least every two years.
- Training covers: the nature of terrorist and extremist ideologies; how radicalisation occurs (including online); indicators of vulnerability; how to report concerns; and the balance with free speech.

6 Recognising concerns

There is no single profile of a person who may be drawn into terrorism. Possible indicators include:

- expressing support for terrorist organisations or violence against particular groups
- sudden changes in behaviour, appearance, friendships or attendance
- accessing, possessing or sharing extremist material
- using extremist language or symbols

- isolation, grievance, or being targeted by others seeking to recruit
- expressing intent to travel to conflict zones

Concerns should be considered in context; many indicators can have innocent explanations.

7 Reporting and referral

1. Any member of staff with a concern reports it to the Prevent Lead (DSL) immediately, using the Safeguarding Concern Form.
2. If there is an immediate risk, call **999**. Suspicious activity can be reported to the Anti-Terrorist Hotline on **0800 789 321**.
3. The Prevent Lead gathers information, considers the student's welfare needs, and decides whether to seek advice from or refer to the police Prevent team using the **national Prevent referral form**, and whether a referral to MASH is also needed.
4. If a referral is accepted, the case may be considered by a **Channel panel** (in Wales, this is a multi-agency panel chaired by the local authority). The Academy will cooperate with the panel. Participation in Channel is voluntary for the individual.
5. All decisions and actions are recorded, including decisions not to refer.

8 Online safety and IT

Academy networks use filtering to block terrorist and extremist content, and monitoring alerts are reviewed by the DSL team (CA-INF-03). Students or staff who need to access sensitive material for legitimate study must agree it in advance.

9 External speakers, events and premises

All external speakers and events are managed under CA-GOV-09. External organisations hiring or using Academy premises must agree to the Academy's terms, which prohibit extremist content and require compliance with this policy.

10 Curriculum, welfare and faith facilities

- The curriculum and tutorial programme promote critical thinking, digital literacy, respect and fundamental British values.
- Students have access to welfare and pastoral support (CA-WEL-03).
- Any prayer or reflection room is open to all faiths and none, and is managed by the Academy with clear rules on use.

11 Information sharing

Information is shared in line with the Wales Safeguarding Procedures, the Prevent guidance and data protection law, on a need-to-know basis. Prevent referrals are not criminal records.

12 Monitoring and review

The Prevent Lead reports annually to the Board on the risk assessment, action plan, training compliance, referrals and external speaker requests. This policy is reviewed annually.

Compliance mapping

This policy has been written to meet, and to evidence, the following external requirements. Inspectors and university partners can use this table to locate the relevant provisions.

ISI Educational Oversight (PFE) standards	Section 4 criteria – arrangements to protect learners from radicalisation and extremism; Standard 12 (teaching does not undermine fundamental British values); Standard 40 (safeguarding)
British Council Accreditation UK criteria	S1–S2 (safeguarding arrangements); W3 (tolerance and respect)
University partner due diligence	Partner due diligence – Prevent policy, risk assessment, training records, external speaker procedure
Legislation and statutory guidance	Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, s.26 (Prevent duty) and s.36 (Channel); Prevent duty guidance for England and Wales (Home Office, 2023, in force 31 December 2023); Terrorism Act 2000 and 2006; Keeping Learners Safe (Wales, 2022); Equality Act 2010

Document control

Version	Date	Author / reviewer	Summary of changes
0.9	Pre-2026	Various	CA Preventing Radicalisation Policy (2025); CA BC Prevent Duty (2025)
1.0	October 2026	Designated Safeguarding Lead (Prevent Lead)	New policy written for university partnerships, ISI Educational Oversight and British Council Accreditation UK. Supersedes all previous versions.

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD	SIGNATURE	DATE
Chair of the Board of Governors		