

# **Radicalisation and Extremism**

## **What is the Prevent Duty?**

Section 21 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty on FE colleges to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

## **What is extremism?**

The government has defined extremism as : “ 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” ; This also includes calls for the death of members of the British armed forces.

## **Who are the extremists commonly presented in British media ?**

The UK public is often exposed through the media to two extreme groups who actively pose a threat to UK citizens:

Extreme Islamist Based Groups

Far Right based groups

## **What are British Values?**

British Values are described as “democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs”; institutions are expected to encourage students to respect other people with particular regard to protected characteristics, such as race, gender, ethnicity etc.

## **What is Radicalisation?**

Radicalisation is defined as the act or process of encouraging extremist views or actions in others, including forms of extremism leading to terrorism.

## **Why does extremism occur?**

Extremism occurs for a variety of reasons, these may include:

- Perceptions of western policy as being belligerent
- Counter terrorism may create feelings of being under threat
- Where young people are isolated from their community
- Easy to access extremist views and materials
- Religious beliefs that support the use of violence
- Young person's desire for excitement, danger or meaning
- Drawn to promises of `a better life` ISIS have an estimated wealth of 2 billion dollars.
- Need to belong – many radicalised young people have weak attachments to their parents or carers.

### **How can you help?**

- Be aware – it could happen here!
- Report any suspicions immediately
- Educate: Both staff and students to be informed through professional development opportunities and tutorial programmes.
- Promote inclusion – value and promote a sense of belonging amongst students
- Be a diversity champion – challenge discrimination.
- In conversation don't immediately shut down extremist views – instead encourage debate and offer alternative view points.

### **What to do if you suspect radicalisation or extremism?**

- Treat radicalisation and extremism as you would any other safeguarding concern.
- Contact the Safeguarding Team

