

University College Birmingham Prevent policy statement.

October 2025

Purpose and scope

The purpose of this policy statement is to set out what University College Birmingham will do to:

- Provide a safe and supportive environment for all our students and have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.
- Ensure that there is a clear reporting and escalation route should staff or students become aware of a concern.
- Ensure that staff and students receive relevant training in respect of radicalisation and extremism and understand their role and responsibilities in regard to the Prevent Duty and safeguarding individuals.

This policy applies to all students, staff, governors, volunteers, contractors, subcontractors, and visitors to University College Birmingham.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children and adults at risk in England including:

- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act (2015)
- Prevent duty guidance: England and Wales (2023)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (2025)

Supporting documents

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies, procedures, guidance, and other related documents:

- Prevent Policy
- Safeguarding Processes and Procedures policy
- IT Acceptable Use Policy
- External Speaker and Approval Policy
- General Student Regulations
- Freedom of Expression: code of practice
- UCB's Prevent Risk Assessment and Action Plan

At University College Birmingham,

We do not:

- tolerate extremist views of any kind whether from internal sources: learners, staff or governors, or external sources: university community, external agencies, or individuals. Students see UCB as a safe place where they can explore controversial issues safely and where our lecturers encourage and facilitate this. We have a duty to ensure this happens.

We recognise that:

- extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes for students and so should be addressed as a safeguarding concern as set out in this policy.
- We also recognise that if we fail to challenge extremist views, we are failing to protect our students. Therefore, we will provide a broad and balanced tutorial programme, delivered by skilled professionals, so that our students understand and become tolerant of difference and diversity. We will ensure that they feel 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 policy.

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

- The importance of promoting British values through the curriculum.
- Disclosures by students of their exposure to the 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 artwork 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.

UCB will closely follow any locally agreed procedure as set out by the Local Authority and/or Safeguarding Children Partnership for safeguarding individuals susceptible to extremism and radicalisation. We will actively engage with the Police, and regional DfE Prevent Co-ordinators. We will help support students who may be susceptible to such influences as part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities; where we believe a student is being directly affected by extremist materials or influences, we will ensure that the student is offered support. In such instances we will seek external support from the Local Authority and/or local partnership structures working to prevent extremism.

When carrying out the Prevent duty, UCB will ensure compliance with other legal obligations not least the Equality Act 2010, The Data Protection Act (2018) and our duties to protect freedom of speech and academic freedoms.

We are committed to reviewing this policy and our practice annually.

Date of issue: October 2025

Date of Next Review: October 2026

Signed: Tracy-Anne Rider (Designated Safeguarding Lead & Head of FE Pastoral Support)

Date: 10.10.2025