Prevent Policy

No.	Policy Item	Involving
1	**Statement** MC Academy school understands its responsibilities under the Counter Terrorism & Security Act 2015 to prevent people of all ages being radicalised or drawn into terrorism and seeks to meet its obligations in the ways shown below, after setting the context.	Everyone
2	**Context** MC Academy is an English Language School for international students (aged 16 or above) which provides morning and afternoon classes all year round, at all levels and also provides Closed Classes (for students younger than 16) at its Summer School.	
3	**Strong Leadership** • Responsibility for ensuring Prevent Duty rests with Majid Abufares (owner/principal). • Responsibility for the Prevent risk assessment / action plan *(see point 4 below)* and policy lies with *the Designated Safeguarding Leads* (DOS). • Their duties are to ensure delivery of an effective risk assessment/action plan and policy as outlined here. • Due to the size of MC Academy school, the lead person duties are shared between Rahila Tauqeer (DOS, Safeguarding Lead) and_____.	Lead person for PREVENT (DOS)
4	**Risk Assessment of current situation and Action Plan for future** A risk assessment / action plan has been produced showing what is already being done and what still needs to be done; it will be reviewed and updated at least annually.	Lead person (DOS/ADOS)

| 5 | **Working with Local Partners**
• Make and maintain contact with the local police/local authority Prevent coordinator to understand their role and the support available, (e.g. via the Channel process).

Our local Prevent officers are:
Michael Holland
Email: michael.holland@gmp.police.uk
Number: 07469037083

Az Khan
Email: asif.khan@gmp.police.uk
Number: 07824083255

Richard Gaffney
Email: richard.gaffney@gmp.police.uk
Number: 07392 136677

Darryl Cunningham
Email: Darryl.cunningham@gmp.police.uk
Number: 07827979114

• Make contact with local authority to ascertain other useful local agencies.
• Develop local area Prevent links with other similar organisations.
• Share information with all local organisations as appropriate. | Lead person (DOS/ADOS) |

6	**Understanding Terminology**	To be transmitted to staff, students, homestays, group-leaders & any other adults through induction, training, and policy documentation
	• **Radicalisation**: Act or process of making a person more radical or favouring of extreme or fundamental changes in political, economic or social conditions, institutions or habits of the mind.	
	• **Extremism***: Holding extreme political or religious views which may deny right to any group or individual. Can be expressed in vocal or active opposition to Core British Values.	
	• **Core British Values**:	
	• Democracy,	
	• The rule of law,	
	• Individual liberty,	
	• *Respectful tolerance of different faiths or beliefs*.	
	* NB: **Extremism** can refer to a range of views, e.g. sexism, racism, homophobia, right-wing ideology, as well as any religious extremism.	
7	**Understanding Risk of Extremism**	To be transmitted to staff through induction, training, and policy documentation
	• Staff, students & other adults (group leaders, homestays etc) may arrive at school already holding extremist views	
	• Or, whilst part of the school, they may be influenced by a range of factors: global events, peer pressure, media, family views, extremist materials via hardcopy or online, external speakers, friends or relatives being harmed, social networks.	
	• People who are vulnerable are more likely to be negatively influenced.	
	• Their vulnerability could stem from a range of causes: loss of identity or sense of belonging, isolation, exclusion, mental health problems, sense of injustice, personal crisis, victim of hate crime or discrimination, bereavement	

8	**Ways to Counteract Risks**	Lead person to
	• Promote a **safe and supportive international environment** via clear expectations of accepted behaviours and those, including radicalisation and extremism, that will not be tolerated	ensure: (a) Training for all staff, students, homestays, group leaders, sub-contractors so that (b) Delivery is effective.
	• **Promote core British values** through documents given to students, notices around school, via stand-alone classes on British culture & traditions on arrival and via curriculum. Approach is to educate that this is how things are in the UK; may be different to your country.	
	• Where possible, develop critical awareness and thought to counter the possibility of accepting extremism without question, especially of online material	
	• **Challenge radical or extremist views** in any context (formal or informal) via stated procedures. In most situations this would require an immediate response, referring to international environment of school, and tolerance expected, then reporting concerns (see section 1).	
	• **Be ready to react** when world or local events (e.g. Paris attacks) cause upset and the likelihood of conflicting feelings being expressed. Prevent Lead to take initiative in these situations.	
	• Have strong filters on IT equipment and clear rules on accessing extremist / terrorist websites / uses of social networks to exchange extremist / terrorist views	
	• Ensure that extremist speakers do not use premises to distribute material or expound views; have system for vetting any visiting speakers / presenters	
	• Staff and homestays get to know students, their home circumstances and friendship groups. Through knowing students well, it is easier to spot changes in behaviour	
	• Staff and homestays to be observant and vigilant in noticing any signs of radical or extremist behaviour	
	• Welfare and all staff and homestays to work hard supporting any students identified as vulnerable	

| 9 | **Training**
• Documents & face to face training to ensure staff understand this policy, i.e.

i)   Understand context and expectations of Prevent.
ii)   Their duty to implement the policy.
iii)   Understand terminology and risks associated with radicalisation and extremism.
iv)   How to identify and support vulnerable students.
v)   Ways the school will counteract the risks.
vi)   Signs to notice that may cause concern.
vii)   Know the Lead Prevent person and procedures for communicating concerns.
viii)   Know the importance of their own behaviour and professionalism in
    a)   Being exemplars of British values and
    b)   Not discussing inflammatory subjects with students (Code of Conduct)

• Training materials are adapted to ensure that homestay hosts understand the sections of the policy they need to be aware of.
• Students and group leaders must be made aware of key parts of the policy:

i)   Understanding Terminology.
ii)   Importance of maintaining a supportive and tolerant community within school.
iii)   What core British values are and why they are considered important.
iv)   Any changes to school rules, particularly those regarding IT.
v)   That they must report any concerns / incidents and procedure for doing so. | Lead person to prepare materials to suit each group being trained;
A. All staff (including cleaners etc)
B. Students
C. Homestay
D. Group leaders
E. Sub-contractors |

10	**Signs that may cause concern**	Lead person to
	• Students talking about exposure to extremist materials or views outside school.	ensure all other adults are aware of signs
	• Changes in behaviour, e.g. becoming isolated.	
	• Fall in standard of work, poor attendance, disengagement.	
	• Changes in attitude, e.g. intolerant of differences/having a closed mind.	
	• Asking questions about topics connected to extremis.	
	• Offering opinions that appear to have come from extremist ideologies.	
	• Attempts to impose own views/beliefs on others.	
	• Use of extremist vocabulary to exclude others or incite violence.	
	• Accessing extremist material online or via social network sites.	
	• Overly new religious practices.	
	• Drawings or posters (e.g. in accommodation) showing extremist ideology/views/symbols.	
	• Students voicing concerns about other students.	
	NB: Any concerns relating to a **person under 18** are **safeguarding** issues and should be dealt with by safeguarding staff (if different from Prevent staff) and, where necessary, the LSCB contacted.	

11	**Staying Safe Online**	
	• There are many online threats, these may include;	

Staying Safe Online

• There are many online threats, these may include;

  i) Grooming

  ii) Online trolls

  iii) Sites with extremist views

  iv) Email scams

• There are many precautions that can be put in place:

  i) Know who you are talking to – students and staff must be aware meeting online acquittances can potentially be very dangerous and they should be aware that such people are still strangers despite the information they may choose to share online.

  ii) Don't give out personal information – certain criminal organisations take advantage of vulnerable people in society by asking for private information including addresses, bank account details, and other personal details.

  iii) Not everything online is true – anyone can write anything online and there is often no none who checks the content, staff and students should get their information from a variety of sources and only chat with people who they have met in person.

  iv) Trusted sources- staff and students should only open messages and files from trusted sources.

  v) Online conduct – staff and students should be aware that their own conduct may attract negative attention and so they should be cautious of what they share and how they respond to certain online postings.

  vi) Protect the vulnerable – old people and children are particularly vulnerable, young students and those with children should be aware of the dangerous effects of online interaction and take necessary safety/ restriction precautions.

  vii) Online protection – staff and students should make use of online passwords and privacy settings and choose a variety of passwords which cannot be easily guessed.

  viii) Know where to get help – online concerns will be dealt with in the same ways as any other Prevent concerns and should be discussed with the necessary staff member (see below)

12	**How and when to react to concerns** • Any concern, however small, should be discussed with the Lead Prevent (DOS). • Confidentiality assured for the person reporting a concern. • Reassurance for Lead Prevent that all will be dealt with sensitively and carefully.	Lead person to ensure everyone has info.
13	**Reporting Concerns** Any concerns related to potential terrorist threats can be reported on https://secure.met.police.uk/athotline/index.php (Confidential Anti-terrorist hotline)	Lead person to ensure everyone has info.
14	**Policy Preparation and Review** Policy will be reviewed every 12 months or earlier if there are changes in relevant legislation or in response to any significant incidents or changes in circumstances.	Lead person(s)

Last Review	2nd January 2024
Next Review	July 2024
Reviewed by	Paul Fernandez, Cagla Karadag Korkut