Prevent Strategy

Policy owner:	Northern School of Contemporary Dance – Governing Body
Lead contact:	Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
Audience:	Applicants, Students, and Staff for Northern School of Contemporary Dance
Approving body:	Board of Governors
Date approved:	February 2026
Policy Implementation date:	February 2026
Supersedes:	Prevent Strategy 2022 - 2024
Previous approved version(s) dates:	January 2024
Review cycle:	Two yearly
Next review due date:	July 2027
Related Statutes, Ordinances, General Regulations	Statutory Framework Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, Education Act 2002 (Section 175), Education and Inspections Act 2006 (Section 38), Children Act 1989 and 2004, Equality Act 2010, Data Protection Act 2018 & UK GDPR, Human Rights Act 1998, Online Safety Act 2023
Related Policies, Procedures and Guidance:	Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom Code of Practice, Student and Staff Disciplinary Procedures, IT Systems Acceptable Use
UK Quality Code reference:	UK Quality Code (QAA): Core Practices on Student Engagement, Wellbeing, and Safeguarding
OfS Conditions reference:	OfS Condition E2: Management and Governance (Prevent Duty Compliance)
Equality and Diversity Considerations:	Policy should be available in accessible format for all students
Further information:	

Further information:
This policy is available upon request in alternative formats. Induction for all staff includes specific reference to this policy. It will be published in student and staff handbooks, and available via NSCD's website and Virtual Learning Environment.

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Prevent Strategy

1. Introduction

The Northern School of Contemporary Dance (NSCD) is a world-leading conservatoire for contemporary dance based in Chapeltown, Leeds. As a small specialist provider with a vibrant community and a 240-seat public theatre (The Riley Theatre), NSCD is fully committed to implementing the Prevent Duty as part of our wider safeguarding and welfare responsibilities. This strategy sits alongside the schools safeguarding Policy and aligns with the requirements of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 and OfS Condition E2.

2. Legislative Framework and Compliance

The following key legal and regulatory frameworks underpin NSCD's Prevent Strategy. By aligning with national and sector-specific guidance, NSCD ensures full compliance with the expectations of the UK government and the Office for Students (OfS).

This strategy is compliant with the following legislation and guidance:

- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Prevent and Channel Duty Guidance (2023)
- Online Safety Act 2023
- Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Bill (Martyn's Law)
- Equality Act 2010
- UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- Office for Students (OfS) Prevent Monitoring Framework and Reporting Requirements

3. Strategic Aims and Prevent Objectives

Prevent sits at the heart of NSCD's approach to safeguarding and wellbeing. As a conservatoire that attracts a diverse and creative student body, we are committed to providing a secure environment that supports freedom of expression, encourages critical thinking, and protects individuals from radicalisation. Our strategic aims are informed by the national Prevent strategy and tailored to meet the risks and needs of our community.

NSCD aims to:

- Embed Prevent within safeguarding, inclusion, and wellbeing frameworks.

- Recognise signs of radicalisation and intervene early.

- Ensure a proportionate, risk-based approach to Prevent.

- Promote British values and support student resilience.

Prevent Objectives (The 3 I's):

- **Ideology**: Challenge extremist ideas and promote democratic values.

- **Individuals**: Support vulnerable individuals and intervene early.

- **Institutions**: Strengthen NSCD's capacity to manage risks of radicalisation.

4. Oversight and Governance

Effective governance is vital to embedding Prevent within NSCD's culture. NSCD has clearly defined roles and responsibilities within key leadership and governance bodies for maintaining accountability, transparency, and continuous improvement in Prevent delivery.

- The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is the Prevent Lead.

- Prevent is reported through the Safeguarding and Prevent Committee.

- Annual Prevent Risk Assessment, Action Plan and Data Return submitted to the OfS.

- Prevent is reviewed by the Board of Governors, Academic Board, and Senior Leadership.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

Embedding Prevent across the institution requires the shared understanding and commitment of all members of the NSCD community. Outlined below are the specific responsibilities of staff and students in supporting Prevent aims.

Staff:

- Complete mandatory Prevent training.

- Report concerns via the Safeguarding Portal (The Safeguarding Company).

- Uphold responsibilities under the IT Acceptable Use and External Speaker policies.

Students:

- Receive Prevent information at induction and through tutorial sessions.

- Are encouraged to engage respectfully in discussions.

- Are supported through personal tutors, counselling, and wellbeing services.

6. Online Safety and IT Security

Online safety plays a critical role in protecting individuals from radicalisation, especially given the prevalence of extremist content on the internet. NSCD manages digital risks in the following ways.

- Filtering and firewall systems are in place to restrict access to extremist material.

- Online behaviour is monitored by the IT Manager via surveillance software.

- Digital resilience is promoted through tutorials and CPD.

7. The Riley Theatre and Martyn's Law

As NSCD hosts public performances at the Riley Theatre, it must comply with new legal requirements under Martyn's Law. This section outlines how NSCD assesses and mitigates risks in a public-facing environment.

- As a venue of 240 seats, the Riley Theatre falls under the Standard Tier.

- NSCD conducts terrorism risk assessments and develops emergency response procedures.

- Staff receive training aligned with Martyn's Law expectations.

8. Events and External Speakers

Engagement with external speakers is encouraged but must be carefully managed to ensure that extremist views are not promoted on campus. NSCD's procedures for managing events are as follows

- All events follow NSCD's External Speaker Policy.

- Risk assessments and content reviews are undertaken by Senior Management.

- Applies to on-site, off-site, and online events.

9. Internal Referral Procedure

Early identification and referral of concerns are central to Prevent implementation. As with our Safeguarding protocols staff and students can raise concerns with the DSL

- Staff or students should report concerns in person or via the safeguarding / my voice portal.

- The Prevent Lead (DSL) will assess, record, and escalate as needed.

- Emergency concerns must be reported to 999 and the Facilities Team.

DSL / Prevent Lead: Tracy Witney
Tel: 0113 2193006
Email: safeguarding@nscd.ac.uk

10. External Referral and Channel Panel

When internal action is not sufficient, NSCD works closely with external agencies such as the Channel Panel, the Local Authority and the Police. Our referral pathways are as follows

- Prevent concerns can be referred to:

  o **Leeds Prevent Team**: 0113 535 0810 / prevent@leeds.gov.uk

  o **Police Prevent Team**: 0113 395 4141

- DSL may consult the DfE Regional Prevent Coordinator.

- NSCD participates in the Channel process where appropriate.

11. Information Sharing and Confidentiality

Protecting individual rights while addressing risk is essential. NSCD's approach to data protection, lawful information sharing, and confidentiality in Prevent cases adhere to:

- The Data Protection Act 2018

- Common Law Duty of Confidentiality

- Consent-based information sharing where appropriate

- Necessity and proportionality when assessing referrals

12. Prevent-Related Serious Incident Reporting (OfS)

In accordance with OfS requirements, NSCD must report serious incidents related to Prevent.

Incidents must be reported to the OfS within 5 days if they:

- Lead to significant policy revision

- Cause harm to students, staff, or the institution's reputation

- Are perceived to relate to Prevent (including hate crime, arrests, near misses)

13. British Values and Inclusion

Promoting British values is a key component of the Prevent Duty. NSCD integrates values such as democracy and tolerance into its educational and community environment.

- NSCD promotes democracy, rule of law, liberty, tolerance and mutual respect.

- Prevent is delivered alongside the curriculum and tutorial programme.

- NSCD adheres to the Equality Act 2010 and promotes inclusivity.

14. Welfare, Support and Chaplaincy

Prevent should be seen through a safeguarding and wellbeing lens. This section describes the range of supportive services that NSCD offers to meet student needs.

- Support is available through tutors, counselling, injury clinics, and the Student Union.

- Quiet space for prayer/reflection is available.

- Chaplaincy referrals can be made to local Leeds-based services.

15. Key Policies Supporting Prevent

The Prevent Duty is embedded within a wider ecosystem of policies, key institutional documents that reinforce NSCD's commitment to safeguarding against radicalisation include

- Safeguarding Policy

- IT Acceptable Use Policy

- External Speaker and Event Policy

- Health & Safety Policy (aligned with Martyn's Law)

- Student Code of Conduct
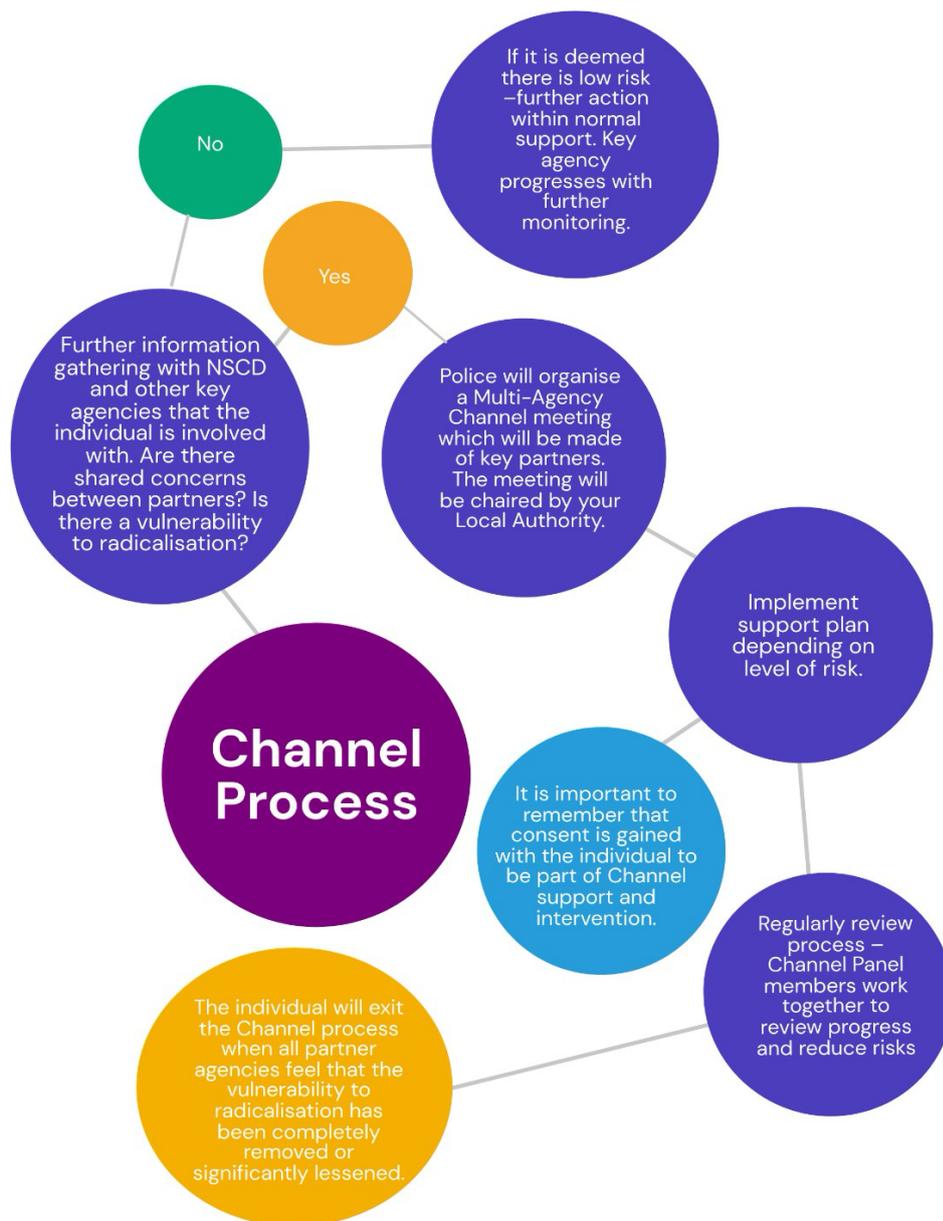
Appendix A: Vulnerability Factors

Understanding what makes individuals vulnerable to radicalisation is vital to providing effective support. These indicators are not definitive, but they help inform risk assessments and interventions.

Factors that may increase vulnerability to radicalisation:

- Identity or personal crisis

- Isolation or peer pressure

- Experience of racism or discrimination

- Online grooming or extremist content

- Criminality or history of imprisonment

Appendix B: Prevent and Channel Flowcharts

Useful Resources and Links

- Prevent Strategy 2021 Factsheet

- CONTEST Strategy

- OfS Prevent Monitoring Guidance

- Channel Guidance

- Prevent Training Resources