

MYF TRAINING POLICY FOR PREVENTING EXTREMISM AND RADICALISATION

INTRODUCTION

MYF Training is committed to providing a secure environment for learners, where they feel safe and are kept safe. All at MYF Training recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, irrespective of the role they undertake or whether their role has direct responsibility for learners or not.

Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation is one element within or overall arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of all learners in line with our statutory duties. This policy also draws upon the Government's Prevent strategy and associated briefing sheets.

OUR ETHOS AND PRACTICE

When operating this policy, MYF Training uses the following accepted Government definition of extremism which is:

“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. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas”

Extremists of all persuasions aim to develop destructive relationships between different communities by promoting division, fear and mistrust of others based on ignorance or prejudice and thereby limiting the life chances of young people. Education is a powerful weapon against this; equipping young people with the knowledge, skills and critical thinking to challenge and debate in an informed way.

MYF Training does not tolerate extremist views of any kind, whether from internal sources; learners, staff or governors, or external sources; external agencies or individuals.

As a training centre, we recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes for students, 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.

Any prejudice, discrimination or extremist views, including derogatory language, displayed by learners or staff will always be challenged, and where appropriate dealt with in accordance with our disciplinary procedures.

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

- Disclosures by learners of their exposure to extremist actions, views or materials of others outside, such as in their homes or community groups, especially where they have not actively sought these out
- Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images
- Learners accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites

- Parental or employer feedback of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance
- Partner colleges, local authority services and police reports of issues affecting learners in other colleges or settings
- Learners 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 Equality and Diversity 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

MYF Training will follow any locally agreed procedure as set out by the Local Authority and/or Hampshire Safeguarding Children's Board's agreed processes and criteria for safeguarding individuals vulnerable to extremism and radicalisation.

We will help support learners who may be vulnerable to such influences as part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities and where we believe a learner is being directly affected by extremist materials or influences we will ensure that the learner is offered mentoring. Additionally, in such instances, we will seek external support from the Local Authority and / or local Prevent Officer.

RAISING CONCERNS

Where there are concerns of extremism or radicalisation, learners and staff will be encouraged to discuss them with the Safeguarding Officer. The procedure for reporting and referring safeguarding concerns will apply.

This policy will be reviewed annually, and updated in line with current legislation and guidance from the Prevent Regional HE/FE Co-ordinator.

Signed:



Julie Ouston, Director & Safeguarding Officer

Reviewed and updated: August 2021