February 2025

Prevent Policy
Preventing violent and non-violent extremism and radicalisation

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Ensure an awareness of Prevent within Baroque In The North
- Provide a clear framework to structure and inform our response to safeguarding concerns, including a supportive referral process for those who may be susceptible to the messages of extremism
- Embed British values into Baroque In The North's ways of working
- Recognise current practice which contributes to the Prevent agenda

Who does this policy apply to?

The Prevent Policy applies to everyone working at or attending Baroque In The North events. It confers responsibilities on all Trustees, individuals working for Baroque In The North, students, and volunteers, visitors and those working under self-employed arrangements.

Policy Statement

The aim of the Prevent Policy is to create and maintain a safe, healthy and supportive learning and working environment. We recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes. We further recognise that if we fail to challenge extremist views we are failing to protect vulnerable young people from potential harm. As such the Prevent agenda, will be addressed as a safeguarding concern.

Baroque In The North has adopted the Prevent Duty in accordance with legislative requirements. However, we will endeavour to incorporate the relevant duties so as not to:

(a) Stifle legitimate discussions, debate or engagement activities in the local community; or

(b) Stereotype, label or single out individuals based on their origins, ethnicity, faith and beliefs or any other characteristics protected under the Equality Act 2010.

Why do we need this policy? Background information

Prevent is one of 4 strands of the Government's counter terrorism strategy – CONTEST. The UK currently faces a range of terrorist threats. Terrorist groups who pose a threat to the UK seek to radicalise and recruit people to their cause. Therefore early intervention is at the heart of Prevent which aims to divert people away from being drawn into terrorist activity.

Prevent happens before any criminal activity takes place by recognising, supporting and protecting people who might be susceptible to radicalisation.

The national Prevent Duty confers mandatory duties and responsibilities on a range of public organisations and seeks to:

- Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and aspects of extremism, and the threat we face from those who promote these views.

- Provide practical help to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and violent extremism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support.

- Work with a wide range of sectors where there are risks of radicalisation which needs to be addressed, including education, criminal justice, faith, the internet and health.

The Government has created a system of 'threat level' which represents the likelihood of a terrorist attack in the near future. The current threat level from international terrorism in the UK is severe, which means that a terrorist attack is highly likely.

Our Prevent Policy has five key objectives:

1. To promote and reinforce shared values, including British Values[1]; to create space for free and open debate; and to listen and support the learner voice.
2. To breakdown segregation among different communities including by supporting inter-faith and inter-cultural dialogue and understanding for the purpose of engaging in playing a full and active role in wider engagement in society.
3. To ensure that Baroque In The North is free from bullying, harassment and discrimination.
4. To provide support for anyone who may be at risk of radicalisation, and appropriate sources of advice and guidance.

[1] British Values are detailed within the Prevent Duty and include democracy, the rule of law, Individual and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

5. To ensure that all individuals engaged in Baroque In The North activities are aware of their roles and responsibilities in preventing violent and non-violent extremism.

Definitions

The following are commonly agreed definitions within the Prevent agenda:

- An ideology is a set of beliefs.
- Radicalisation is the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism that may lead to terrorism.
- Safeguarding is the process of protecting vulnerable people, whether from crime, other forms of abuse or from being drawn into terrorism-related activity.
- Terrorism is an action that endangers or causes serious violence, damage or disruption and is intended to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made with the intention of advancing a political, religious or ideological.
- Vulnerability describes factors and characteristics associated with being susceptible to radicalisation.
- Extremism is vocal or active opposition to fundamental British Values, including democracy, the rule of law, Individual and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

Aims

Leadership and Values

To create and maintain an ethos that upholds core values of shared responsibility and wellbeing for all whilst promoting respect, equality and diversity and understanding.

This will be achieved through:

- Promoting core values of respect, equality and diversity, democratic society, learner voice and participation.

- Deepening engagement with local communities and faith groups.

Support

To ensure that all individuals working for Baroque In The North take preventative and responsive steps, working with partner professionals, families and communities.

This will be achieved through:

- Implementing anti-bullying strategies and challenging discriminatory behaviour.

- Recognising factors that may increase risk to someone, i.e. vulnerability,

disadvantage or hardship, and implementing early risk management strategies.

- Supporting 'at risk' people through safeguarding and crime prevention processes.

Roles and responsibilities

Whilst this is a standalone policy, it is integral to our Safeguarding Policy and should be applied as an extension to Baroque In The North's current and established safeguarding procedures.

All Trustees have a legal responsibility under the Prevent Duty to ensure that:

- all individuals working for Baroque In The North are aware of when it is appropriate to refer concerns about vulnerable or young people or colleagues to the Designated Safeguarding Officer;

- all individuals working for Baroque In The North exemplify British Values into their values;

Prevent Lead for Baroque In The North

Amanda Babington is the Prevent Lead and Designated Safeguarding Officer, with responsibility for ensuring that our Prevent Strategy is implemented and that any concerns are shared with the relevant organisations.

All individuals working for Baroque In The North have a responsibility to:

- create and support an ethos that upholds Baroque In The North's mission, vision and values including British Values, to create an environment of respect, equality and diversity and inclusion;

- report any concerns around extremism or radicalisation via the safeguarding reporting channels;

- participate in engagement with local communities, schools and external organisations as appropriate.

This policy should be used in conjunction with the following policies and procedures:

- Safeguarding Policy