



PREVENT DUTY POLICY

This document sets out Falmouth University's and FX Plus's Policy in relation to the Prevent Duty. It should be read in conjunction with the parallel Prevent Duty Guidance.

ORGANISATION: Falmouth University (Falmouth) and Falmouth Exeter Plus (FX Plus)

APPLIES TO: All staff and students

POLICY OWNED BY: David Dickinson, Director of Student & Academic Support

REQUIRED CONSULTEES:

Prevent Partnership Group

University Management Committee (Falmouth)

Senior Leadership Team (FX Plus)

People & Culture

Student Wellbeing Support

Executive Director of Estates, Operations and Planning (Falmouth)

Executive Director of FX Plus

APPROVED BY:

University Management Committee (Falmouth)

Senior Leadership Team (FX Plus)

DATE APPROVED: UMC, July 2024, SLT July 2024

Updated: Academic Board July 2025

REVIEW DATE: July 2028

PREVENT DUTY POLICY

PURPOSE

- 1 The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015, updated in the Prevent duty guidance for England and Wales (2023), places a duty on all universities to have a due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. This is known as the Prevent Duty. This document sets out the Falmouth and FX Plus Policy in relation to the Prevent Duty.

SCOPE

- 2 This Policy applies to all students (including on short, and non-credit bearing courses) and to all individuals undertaking the work of Falmouth and FX Plus, including directly employed staff, contractors, volunteers, and those engaged through a third-party employer such as agency staff.
- 3 The University values freedom of speech and academic freedom as essential components of higher education and take reasonably practical steps to secure these freedoms for their members and visitors. The Prevent Duty does not constrain the entitlement of relevant staff to academic freedom within the law to question and test received wisdom, and to put forward new ideas and controversial or unpopular opinions, without placing themselves in jeopardy of losing their jobs or privileges. However, these freedoms are not absolute and come with responsibilities. The University will not permit activities or expressions on their premises or under their auspices that constitute a criminal offence or are otherwise unlawful, and specifically in relation to the Prevent Statutory Duty that risk drawing people into terrorism (whether in a physical or virtual environment). Such activities or expressions will be considered a serious disciplinary offence and may also be considered unlawful.
- 4 The University of Exeter shares a campus and services with Falmouth University, and its Prevent Duty arrangements are governed via a separate Policy.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- 5 The Prevent Duty Guidance provides more detail in relation to Falmouth's and FX Plus's approach to meeting the aims of this Policy.
- 6 This document should also be read in conjunction with other Falmouth / FX Plus Policies, listed in the Guidance (paragraph 6).

PREVENT DUTY POLICY

- 7 It is the Policy of Falmouth and FX Plus to comply fully with the requirements of the Prevent Duty, specifically to take suitable, sufficient, and proportionate steps to:
 - 7.1 prevent any member of the University community from being drawn into terrorism as part of identifying and helping vulnerable students and staff and ensuring the safety and wellbeing of students, staff and the wider community; and to achieve this while
 - 7.2 protecting academic freedom and general freedom of expression within the law; and
 - 7.3 ensuring that the principles of equality and diversity are preserved in all aspects of University life.
- 8 The Director of Student & Academic Support is the designated person in a leadership position who oversees Prevent delivery (including ensuring that relevant staff have appropriate training and induction).
- 9 The Director of Student & Academic Support is responsible for ensuring partnership working with local and regional Prevent leads, the Police, and Local Authority, as well as the DfE, to ensure effective partnership in delivering Prevent.
- 10 The Prevent Partnership Group is responsible for maintaining a Partnership Risk Assessment and updates this three times per year. The Prevent Partnership Group is also responsible for monitoring the implementation of Risk Assessment actions.
- 11 In recognition of the role of the Students' Union (SU), the SU is represented on the Prevent Partnership Group, and relevant policies and procedures are aligned between the University/FX Plus and the SU (e.g., in relation to External Speakers, and Staff Training).
- 12 The Director of People & Culture is responsible for ensuring that suitable and sufficient Prevent Duty training is made available on a mandatory basis to all staff, and that appropriate additional training is also provided to staff in certain key roles (e.g., student facing staff in Student Support, Chaplaincy or Campus Safety & Support).
- 13 The Director of Infrastructure is responsible for ensuring that suitable and sufficient policies relating to IT equipment and networks are in place, which contain specific reference to the Prevent duty, and internet monitoring (via Fortigate) is implemented as a means of restricting access to harmful content.

- 14 The Director of Student & Academic Support is responsible for implementation of the agreed [Prevent Statutory Duty and events involving external speakers Policy](#). This also pays due regard to the need to preserve freedom of speech and academic freedom.
- 15 The Director of Student & Academic Support is responsible for ensuring appropriate support is provided to Falmouth and Exeter in preparing their annual reports to the Office for Students in relation to Prevent Duty compliance.

STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

- 16 All staff are required to undertake the mandatory Prevent Duty training provided, and to follow the guidance it provides.

REPORTING CONCERNS

- 17 Staff are required to report any concerns that they may have that someone in the University community is potentially being drawn into a terrorist ideology or is vulnerable and susceptible to radicalisation. Staff are also required to report concerns in relation to the creation or exploitation of a permissive environment (see definition in Guidance section paragraph 5.4).
- 18 Staff are expected to respond to concerns in a robust and timely way, whilst also being sensitive and proportionate to the individuals' needs as some behaviours which may appear as signs of potential radicalisation may also be signs of other support needs.

- 19 **Emergencies and Immediate Concerns**

In the rare event that an individual's behaviour may present an immediate and imminent risk of harm to themselves or others, the emergency services should be contacted, and Campus Safety & Support should be alerted once this call has been made.

- 20 **Concerns about Students**

Where the concern is not immediate and relates to a student at Falmouth, the FX Plus Student Wellbeing Support Team should be contacted (out of hours report via Campus Safety & Support).

Note: the same general process is also applied to responding to concerns regarding University of Exeter students.

- 21 **Concerns about Staff Members**

Concerns should be reported to the Executive Director of Estates, Operations and Planning People & Culture (or nominated deputy).

- 22 **Concerns about Others (not current staff or students)**

Where the concern is not immediate (see 19), the FX Plus Student Wellbeing Support Team should be contacted.

CONFIDENTIALITY

- 23 All information relating to reported concerns must be treated confidentially. In some instances, it may be necessary and proportionate to share some personal information with partner agencies as part of the risk assessment and referral processes.