



The Inns of
Court College
of Advocacy

The Prevent Duty

What is the Prevent Duty?

The Prevent Duty is part of the Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy, CONTEST. Under the Prevent Duty, "specified authorities" are required to have a "due regard to the need to prevent individuals from being drawn into terrorism". It applies to higher education institutions, local authorities, schools, further education institutions, the health sector, prisons and probation, and the police.

The Office for Students regulates HEI compliance with the Prevent Duty and requires higher education providers to have specific policies and procedures in place. The most recent guidance can be found [here](#).

By working with a wide range of partners, those implementing the Duty aim to safeguard and support vulnerable people to stop them being drawn into terrorism or supporting terrorism through early intervention. It also enables those already engaged in terrorism to disengage and rehabilitate. Prevent occupies the non-criminal space of CONTEST and sits separately from the rest of the CONTEST strategy. Individuals who are referred through the Duty can choose to participate in the CHANNEL programme.

CHANNEL is a voluntary, confidential, multi-agency programme that seeks to ensure vulnerable children and adults of any faith, ethnicity or background can receive support before their vulnerabilities are exploited by those that would want them to embrace terrorism, and before they become involved in criminal, terrorist-related activity.

The ICCA Approach

Our approach to having a due regard to the Prevent Duty is primarily one of safeguarding the welfare of our students, staff and the ICCA community. The ICCA takes a proactive, proportionate and risk-

based approach to the Prevent Duty, which covers welfare, events, training and partnerships. We also ensure that the Duty is balanced against our fundamental commitment to academic freedom, freedom of expression and other key legislations, such as, the Human Rights Act and the Equality Act.

Implementation of the Prevent Duty is overseen by the ICCA Dean, the COIC Director of Operations and the ICCA Board of Governors. The Prevent Lead for the ICCA is the Bar Course Leader. We also regularly engage with student representatives and external partners, such as, Local Authorities and the Department for Education.

The ICCA has a number of policies and procedures that students and/or agree to comply with when they commence their studies or begin employment at the ICCA. These aim to create an environment that permits freedom of speech and expression whilst respecting the rights of others. The following documents, policies and procedures are reviewed regularly to ensure they align with the Office for Students guidance on the Prevent Duty:

- Prevent Duty Risk Assessment and Action Plan
- Safeguarding Policy
- Cause for Concern Procedures
- IT Acceptable Use Policy
- Online Forum Use Policy
- External Speaker Policy
- Staff Training Schedule
- Freedom of Speech Code of Practice