

The Education & Training Foundation

Prevent duty for IT staff

What is your Prevent duty?

This brief guide is to help IT staff to understand the responsibilities around the Prevent duty and who to contact to get help if you are worried or unsure about anything.

Complying with the Prevent duty includes promoting and exemplifying British values: i.e. democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, tolerance and mutual respect and different faiths and beliefs. This includes not discriminating against the following nine groups as set out in the Equality Act 2010:

- age;
- disability;
- gender reassignment;
- marriage and civil partnership;
- pregnancy and maternity;
- race;
- religion or belief;
- sex;
- sexual orientation.¹

All staff and volunteers must attend Safeguarding and Prevent duty training as identified or provided by your institution.

All staff and volunteers must report any Safeguarding and Prevent concerns to the named staff responsible.

All staff and volunteers are expected to uphold the values embedded within the Equality Act 2010 at all times. They should use any relevant opportunities to promote the British values of: democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, tolerance and mutual respect for different faiths and beliefs.

If you have concerns then always refer them to the appropriate Prevent (normally the Safeguarding) team internally.

As IT staff you will have an overview of online activities and results from filtering reports of which other staff are not aware. You should use your professional judgement to decide if and when it is appropriate to refer concerns to the Safeguarding team.

Identification of concerns might include the following, although this list is not exhaustive:

- Access or attempted access of extremist or banned websites – unless with authorised by Safeguarding staff for academic study.²
- Evidence of concerning online behaviours evidenced e.g. through the filtering system.
- Evidence of any deliberate avoidance or abuse of the cyber security.

¹ Equality Act, 2010: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/section/4>

² <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>

- Expression of views which are discriminately against protected groups or individuals
- Evidence of use of social media which raises concerns to you as an IT professional
- Third party reports of concerns about behaviour e.g. plans to travel abroad or extremist activities
- Direct disclosure of vulnerability
- Evidence of discriminately treatment of other groups or individuals
- Evidence of bullying behaviour or harassment
- Evidence of non-compliance with the providers expectations of behaviour
- Possessing, accessing extremist materials.
- Expression of extremist views including on Facebook.
- Use of extremist language
- Threats of violence

If your professional experience gives you concerns about the behaviour of individuals then discuss this with a member of the Safeguarding team.

**For further information go to the Education and Training Foundation Prevent website:
<http://www.preventforfeandtraining.org.uk>**