

PREVENT Policy for FarmSpace

1. Introduction

Farmspace is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all students, and we recognize the importance of providing a safe and inclusive environment. As part of our responsibility to protect students from the risks of radicalisation, we adhere to the PREVENT Duty as set out in the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015. The PREVENT Duty aims to stop people from becoming radicalised and involved in terrorism, and this policy outlines our approach to fulfilling this responsibility within the context of our alternative educational farm provision.



2. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Raise awareness of the PREVENT Duty within FarmSpace.
- Prevent students from being drawn into terrorism or extremist ideologies.
- Support students at risk of radicalisation through early identification and intervention.
- Create a safe and nurturing environment where students can develop critical thinking and respectful discussion.

3. Understanding Radicalisation and Extremism

Radicalisation refers to the process by which individuals come to adopt extreme political, social, or religious views, which may lead to involvement in terrorism or violent acts. Extremism refers to beliefs or actions that are in opposition to accepted societal values, such as democracy, the rule of law, and equality.

In an educational setting, radicalisation can take many forms and may involve individuals being drawn to harmful ideologies. FarmSpace staff will be trained to recognise early signs of radicalisation or extremist views and will work collaboratively with local authorities to ensure appropriate support is provided.

4. Risk Assessment and Prevention

As part of our duty to safeguard students, FarmSpace will conduct a thorough risk assessment to identify any potential vulnerabilities that may make students more susceptible to radicalisation. This will include:

- Regular assessments of students' well-being and emotional state.
- Identifying students who may be at risk of isolation or disengagement.
- Engaging students in activities that promote critical thinking and awareness of social issues.

We will ensure that students are taught British values such as democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs.

5. Training and Awareness

All staff at FarmSpace will receive regular training on the PREVENT Duty and how to recognise the signs of radicalisation and extremism. Staff will be equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to intervene appropriately and to refer any concerns to the designated safeguarding lead (DSL).

Staff will also be trained on how to promote inclusion, respect, and positive behaviours in a farm-based environment, with an emphasis on promoting diversity and open-mindedness.

6. Early Intervention and Support

If any member of staff identifies a student who may be at risk of radicalisation, they will raise their concerns with the DSL, who will follow the appropriate safeguarding procedures. This could involve:

- Discussing the concerns with the student in a sensitive and supportive manner.
- Engaging with parents, carers, or external agencies (e.g., social services, local authority PREVENT team) to provide appropriate support.

- Offering opportunities for the student to participate in activities that help them build resilience and positive social connections, including farm-based projects, teamwork, and mentoring.

7. Engaging with Parents and Carers

Farmspace recognises the important role that parents and carers play in supporting students' welfare. We will engage with parents/carers to raise awareness of the PREVENT Duty and the risks of radicalisation and extremism. We will encourage open communication and involve them in supporting their child's development in a safe and nurturing environment.

We will also ensure that information on PREVENT and associated support services is available for parents and carers.

8. Curriculum and Activities

Farmspace's curriculum is designed to encourage open dialogue, respect for others, and critical thinking. We will:

- Incorporate lessons that promote tolerance, respect, and an understanding of different cultures and beliefs.
- Provide farm-based learning activities that encourage teamwork, communication, and social interaction.
- Challenge harmful stereotypes or prejudices in a constructive manner, helping students develop a balanced understanding of different perspectives.
- Encourage students to engage in discussions on societal issues, building their resilience against extremist ideologies.

9. Referral Process

Any concerns about a student's potential radicalisation or extremism will be reported immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). If the DSL deems it necessary, the case will be referred to the appropriate local authority or the PREVENT team for further support.

Staff and volunteers will also be encouraged to contact the DSL if they notice any changes in student behaviour or attitudes that may raise concerns.

10. Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if necessary, to ensure that it remains up-to-date with the latest guidance and best practices in safeguarding and PREVENT.

11. Conclusion

At Farmspace, we are committed to providing a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment where all students can thrive. By implementing this PREVENT policy, we aim to protect our students from the risks of radicalisation while supporting their growth and development in a nurturing farm-based setting.

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): Nic@farmspacebarnsley.co.uk