

Statement on The Prevent Duty and Freedom of Speech

At Francis James, we take the safeguarding and support of learners seriously, this includes ensuring a secure, positive and supportive environment for learners.

The [Prevent Duty](#) aims to safeguard people from being drawn into terrorism. We have due regard to the Prevent Duty in our approach to safeguarding and learner wellbeing.

We have the following measures in place at Francis James in relation to the Prevent Duty:

- Access for staff to training to ensure awareness of staff responsibilities in relation to counter terrorism.
- Incorporation of principles relating to Prevent into relevant policies and strategies, including our Safeguarding Strategy and the Safe and Responsible Use of IT Policy.
- Annual assessment of risks associated with radicalisation, and relevant mitigations
- A reporting procedure to enable concerns to be raised and escalated effectively within and, where required, external to the organisation.

We also have regard to freedom of speech within the law (as set out in the University Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Act 2023). Freedom of Speech means everyone has the right to express lawful views and opinions freely, in speech or writing, without interference.

Francis James may restrict this right, or take action to protect the rights of others, but only where it is proportionate to do so, and/or if it is deemed to fall under principles in relation to the Prevent Duty. We will ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that no person is denied freedom of speech for reasons relating to their beliefs, views, policies or objectives, where they are lawful.

If you have any questions or concerns about our approach to the Prevent Duty or freedom of speech, or if you are concerned that there is a person who may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism, you can email Francis James on info@francisjames.org and you will be contacted by a safeguarding lead.

Written By	Revision Date	Revision Number	Approved By	Review Date
D James	6/11/2025	1	 S Graham	6/11/26