1st for Awarding Ltd
Prevent Policy

Policy Purpose

1st for Awarding is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all learners who engage with our assessment services.

This policy sets out how 1st for Awarding fulfils its responsibilities in relation to the Prevent Duty and supports the safeguarding of children, young people and adults who may be vulnerable to radicalisation or extremism. It applies to all employees, associates, assessors, contractors and others acting on behalf of 1st for Awarding.

This policy should be read alongside:

- Safeguarding Policy
- Fair Access Policy
- Complaints and Appeals Policy

Legislative Framework

This policy is informed by:

- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Prevent Duty Guidance: England and Wales (2023)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (2026)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2026)
- Data Protection Act 2018
- UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)

Section 26 of the Counterterrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty on certain bodies ("specified authorities"), in the exercise of their functions, to have: "Due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism."

This requirement is known as the Prevent Duty and forms part of the UK's wider safeguarding framework. Radicalisation and extremism are safeguarding concerns and should be considered alongside other safeguarding risks. 1st for Awarding is committed to taking appropriate action where concerns arise and managing such concerns through its safeguarding procedures

Definitions

Prevent is part of the Government's counter-terrorism strategy and aims to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

Radicalisation refers to the process through which an individual comes to support terrorism or extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

Extremism refers to the promotion or advancement of an ideology based on violence, hatred or intolerance that seeks to undermine the rights and freedoms of others.

Radicalisation and extremism are safeguarding concerns and should be managed through existing safeguarding processes.

As an Awarding Organisation (AO), 1st for Awarding recognises its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of learners who engage with its assessment services. This includes taking appropriate action where concerns arise that an individual may be vulnerable to radicalisation, extremism or other forms of harm.

Principles

1st for Awarding will:

- Promote a culture where safeguarding and Prevent are recognised as everyone's responsibility
- Take a proportionate and risk-based approach to Prevent in line with our role as an awarding organisation.
- Ensure employees, associates, assessors, contractors and other representatives are aware of their safeguarding and Prevent responsibilities.
- Encourage completion of appropriate safeguarding and Prevent awareness training, including government approved Prevent training where relevant.
- Work collaboratively with training providers, employers and other agencies where safeguarding concerns arise.
- Take all concerns relating to radicalisation, extremism or terrorism seriously and respond appropriately through established safeguarding procedures.

All employees, associates, assessors, contractors and other representatives acting on behalf of 1st for Awarding are provided with access to this policy and are expected to familiarise themselves with their safeguarding and Prevent responsibilities.

Following advice from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), 1st for Awarding does not routinely require enhanced DBS checks for assessors solely by virtue of their role. Any recruitment, vetting or safeguarding arrangements will be determined according to the nature of the role and level of direct contact with learners.

Reporting Concerns

Any staff or contractor who has concerns about that a learner may be at risk of radicalisation, extremism or related safeguarding concerns must report this immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and follow the Safeguarding Policy.

Concerns may arise through:

- Behaviour, language or expressed views.
- Changes in behaviour or presentation.
- Online activity or engagement with extremist content.

- Disclosures made by a learner.
- Information received from a third party.

The DSL will assess the concern and determine any appropriate safeguarding action. Where necessary, concerns may be referred to relevant safeguarding agencies, the police, local Prevent teams or the Channel programme in accordance with local safeguarding arrangements and statutory guidance.

Training providers and employers are expected to follow their own safeguarding and Prevent procedures. Where concerns arise during an assessment activity, concerns may also be reported directly to the 1st for Awarding DSL.

Roles and Responsibilities

Safeguarding Team
Email: safeguarding@1stforawarding.co.uk
Telephone: 01642 205207, Option 4

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) – Paula Dennis - Head of Quality and Compliance

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) Megan Farquhar – Compliance Coordinator

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is responsible for:

- Receiving and managing Prevent-related concerns.
- Maintaining appropriate records.
- Seeking advice from external agencies where required.
- Ensuring concerns are managed in line with safeguarding procedures.
- Promoting awareness of safeguarding and Prevent responsibilities across the organisation.

Recording and Information Sharing

1st for Awarding is committed to maintaining confidentiality wherever possible. Information relating to Prevent concerns will be shared only with those who have a legitimate need to know in order to safeguard an individual or comply with legal obligations.

All Prevent concerns, disclosures, observations, actions and referrals will be recorded securely and retained in accordance with 1st for Awarding's safeguarding, data protection and records management arrangements.

Records must:

- Be factual, accurate and objective.
- Clearly distinguish fact from opinion.
- Record actions taken, decisions made and the rationale for those decisions.
- Be stored securely with appropriate access controls.

Information sharing should never be delayed where doing so may place an individual at risk of harm.

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Document Owner	Quality and Compliance

Version History		
V1.0	Sep 2023	First version
V1.1	23rd Dec 2024	Updated to add version control
V1.2	17th Mar 2025	Updated safeguarding and contact details
V2.0	1st October 2025	Revisions made to detail for clarification and rebrand.
V2.1	1st October 2026	Updated legislation, terminology, reporting & information sharing guidance

This document will be reviewed annually and updated as required