

Prevent Policy

Guildhall School of Music & Drama

2026/2027

1. Purpose and Scope of the Policy

The Prevent duty aims to stop people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. It is a statutory duty which requires specified public authorities to **“have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”**.

As a higher education provider, Guildhall School of Music & Drama (“the School”) is committed to meeting its responsibilities under Prevent whilst having regard to the duty to ensure freedom of speech and the importance of academic freedom.

The Office for Students monitors how higher education providers, including Guildhall School, meet the requirements under the duty.

This Policy applies to all individuals working on behalf of the Guildhall School, including:

- Board of Governors and Trustees
- Senior Managers
- Paid staff and volunteers
- Freelance and agency workers
- Contractors and support staff (e.g. cleaners, caterers, builders)
- Students
- Workshop leaders and visiting artists
- Visitors to the School
- Senior School students and Graduate Assistants on placements
- Student Union Officials

2. Policy framework

This Policy should be read in conjunction with other relevant Guildhall School and City of London policies and notably the [Freedom of Speech Code of Practice](#) and the [Prevent Duty Guidance](#) for England and Wales

3. Duties

In compliance with its duty to have “due regard” as set out above, the School will:

- assess the risks associated with Prevent and draw up a plan to mitigate those risks.
- have effective welfare support systems, linking to Department for Education HE Prevent coordinators, local authorities or the police if necessary.
- have systems for assessing and mitigating risks around external speakers and events on campus, while maintaining the duty to secure and promote freedom of speech.

- arrange ongoing Prevent training for relevant staff.
- have an IT usage policy, and where appropriate a research policy, which have due regard to the Prevent duty.
- engage with students and ensure that students' unions and societies are aware of policies concerning activities on campus.

4. Roles and responsibilities

For more information on the process and procedures for Prevent, please read the Prevent Guidance & Procedures which can be found on our [intranet](#).

External speakers

Issues relating to external speakers will be dealt with in accordance with the [Freedom of Speech Code of Practice](#).

Welfare and Safeguarding concerns

The School views Prevent as part of its welfare and safeguarding responsibilities, and it has an extensive system of welfare and safeguarding support for students and staff. Concerns about an individual should be reported, in the first instance via the [Report & Support Portal](#) or to the Safeguarding Team here: safeguardingteam@qsm.d.ac.uk

Where the matter relates to a member of staff, the Head of Human Resources will be consulted. Where the matter relates to a student, Student Services and the Head of Safeguarding will be consulted.

The School will consult, where appropriate with the City of London Prevent Team ([Prevent: Our Counter Terrorism Strategy - City of London](#)); and/or the with the DfE HE Regional Prevent coordinators for London.

Where appropriate, matters will be escalated to the Principal and Safeguarding Lead Governors.

5. Oversight and monitoring compliance

As set out in section 4 (above), the Head of Safeguarding and Director for GYA & Safeguarding have key responsibility in respect of Prevent and a risk assessment and action plan is overseen by the Safeguarding team and School Executive Committee.

Prevent is included on the institutional risk register, and an annual report is submitted to the Office for Students, as set out in section 1 (above).

The Board of Governors holds overall responsibility for ensuring effective measures are in place across the Guildhall School.

6. Policy review

Last date of review: 11/08/2026

Policy Owners:

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Next Review: 11/08/2027