

**Position statement on extremism and radicalisation**

This statement provides an overall context within which the College will fulfil its obligations under the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 to have due regard for the need to prevent people from being radicalised and drawn into terrorism.

Ayrshire College is committed to equality of opportunity, respect for all individuals and celebrating cultural diversity.

The College also recognises its responsibilities not only to help all students to develop the specific skills, knowledge and attributes that are the focus of their learning and programmes of study, but also to acquire the broader social skills of life, learning and work that underpin effective participation in our communities and wider society.

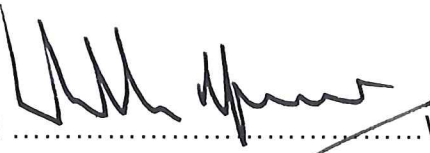
The College also recognises that our students are subject to a whole range and variety of influences, some of which may well be considered as being harmful to the values of a liberal, democratic society.

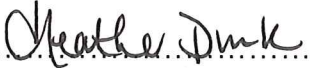
The College respects an individual's right to freedom of thought and, within the normally accepted social parameters of speech and expression, welcomes the free exchange of ideas and ideologies. The College, however, also recognises its responsibilities to be aware of situations where radical ideas are being developed, shared and promoted which are, or could be, detrimental to our expectations with regard to normal social order and a sense of unity and togetherness.

No one will be discriminated against because of race, culture, political views or religious beliefs. College staff will be vigilant and alert, however, to the possibility of someone being subject to influence with regard to the development of ideas or intentions which are, or could become extremist in nature and lead to danger for themselves and/or others. College staff will be supported, through continuing professional development, to identify potential signs of radicalisation and extremism, and to have the knowledge, understanding and confidence to report their concerns accordingly.

This position statement complements and supplements the College's Safeguarding policy.

Any concerns should be raised with the Director of Student Services, in the first instance, who will act in accordance with the Safeguarding policy's arrangements.

Signed  ..... Willie Mackie, Chair of the Board of Management  
Date ..... 5/10/2016 .....

Signed  ..... Heather Dunk, Principal and Chief Executive  
Date ..... 5/10/2016 .....