



Martyn's Law Factsheet



The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 (the Act), known as Martyn's Law will require those responsible for certain premises and events to take steps to mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack and reduce harm in the event of an attack occurring.



Martyn's Law

The Act will require education settings, where it is reasonable to expect 200 or more people to be present, to plan for evacuation, invacuation, lockdown and communication in the event of an incident. Settings below 200 will be out of scope.

Early Years, primary, secondary and some further education settings are considered to be standard tier premises under the Act, whilst higher education establishments are treated the same as other premises in scope. Standard tier premises have to notify the SIA of who their 'responsible person' is. Enhanced tier premises also need to share details of their plans with the SIA.



Responsible Person

Settings must have a 'responsible person'. This person who has control of the premises and is set by the legislation. For education settings, the responsible person is the Governing Body, Local Authority or the Proprietor.

The responsible person must ensure that the requirements of the Act are satisfied.

The Home Office statute guidance provides further detail as does the Department for Education overview.

The SIA and DIE will publish further guidance in due course.



For further information and updates, please refer to official guidance from the Home Office, the Department for Education and the Security Industry Authority (SIA).



The Regulator

The Security Industry Authority (SIA) is the regulator.

The SIA will have several legal powers to fully exercise its functions: authorising an inspector, power of entry, power to be accompanied, and information gathering.



Third Party providers

The Department for Education does not endorse third party providers. Martyn's Law requires providers responsible for standard tier premises to take reasonably practical measures. These will not normally require third-party support or additional physical security measures.



Key takeaway

Planning ahead can save lives. Understand your responsibilities under Martyn's Law and ensure your setting is prepared.





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Standard Tier

Settings will need to:

- Identify the Responsible Person and notify the regulator (SIA)
- Put in place 'reasonably practicable' public protection procedures covering the potential need for evacuation, invacuation, lockdown and communication in the event of an incident.
- Focus on simple, low-cost activities surrounding policies and procedure which are to be followed by staff in the event of a terrorist attack or suspected terrorist attack occurring. There is no requirement to put in place physical measures in this tier.



Enhanced Tier

Settings will need to:

- Satisfy all of the requirements for standard tier.
- Put in place 'reasonably practicable' public protection measures
- Document the public protection procedures and measures in place, and provide this to the SIA.
- Where the responsible person is not an individual, they must appoint a senior individual to ensure compliance.



Core guidance

The Department for Education have published a number of free resources that can help settings put in place preparedness plans.

These resources have not been published in tandem with Martyn's Law.



[The Protective Security and Preparedness guidance for education settings](#)

Aims to deter terrorist attacks and other security problems in education settings by rolling out good security practices.



[ACT for Education](#)

E-learning course focused on embedding a security minded culture, identifying security vulnerabilities and suspicious activity, and how to respond to an incident.

ACT for Education free SCORM files will be available on gov.uk soon. This will allow you to add the e-learning to your LMS.



[ACT for Youth](#)

Teacher guidance and lesson plans designed to educate 11-16-year-olds on how to respond in the unlikely event of a knife or gun attack: RUN to safety, HIDE if you can't, and TELL the police when you're safe.



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Additional guidance

We recommend the following additional resources.



Outdoor education guidance

Guidance, advice and training related to outdoor learning and educational visits in England and Wales. They support their members in their work with schools, colleges and services to children and young people.



ProtectUK

Counter Terrorism Policing's counter terrorism and security hub, offering advice and guidance to businesses and the public to help keep them safe from terrorism.



School and college security

Non-statutory guidance to help schools and colleges develop policies and plans to manage and respond to security related incidents.



National Protective Security Authority

The UK government's National Technical Authority for physical and personnel protective security. They provide advice, guidance, learning, and resources on security measures for critical national infrastructure and other sectors.



Emergency planning and response for education, childcare, and children's social care settings

Non-statutory guidance to help settings plan for and respond to a range of emergencies.



Security-Minded Communications

Guidance to help protect an organisation by viewing existing and planned communications through the eyes of someone who is seeking to gather information to help them plan a hostile act against it.



Stay informed

These resources are regularly updated. Visit the linked websites for the latest guidance.

