

MARTYN'S LAW

Toolkit for Education Settings



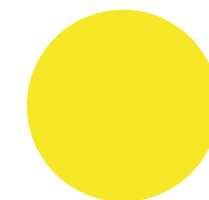
Department
for Education



BACKGROUND TO MARTYN'S LAW

The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 (the Act) became law on 3 April 2025. It is commonly known as Martyn's Law, and is named in honour of Martyn Hett, one of the 22 people killed in the 2017 Manchester Arena terrorist attack. Martyn's mother, Figen Murray, campaigned over many years for a new law to better protect the public in the event of a terror attack.

- The Act will improve protective security and organisational preparedness across the UK.
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- There are special considerations in place for premises used for early years or primary, secondary or further education.



WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR SCHOOLS, CHILDCARE AND FURTHER EDUCATION SETTINGS

Childcare settings, primary and secondary schools and some further education will be in the standard tier if 200 or more individuals are to be present at any one time, from time to time. A special consideration means that these settings are never in the enhanced tier. Premises that will never have more than 200 people present are out of scope.



FURTHER EDUCATION SETTINGS

➤ DfE-funded independent training providers

will fall under this special consideration and will be in the standard tier, even if they expect 800 or more individuals.

➤ Privately owned independent training providers

will not fall under the special consideration. These providers will be treated the same as other premises in scope of the act.





HIGHER EDUCATION

Higher education establishments will fall into the standard tier if it is reasonable to expect 200 to 799 individuals to be present, and the enhanced tier if it is reasonable to expect 800 or more individuals. The enhanced tier has additional requirements.

- **<200 individuals to be present on the premises at the same time, from time to time**

Out of Scope

- **200-799 individuals to be present on the premises at the same time, from time to time**

Standard Tier

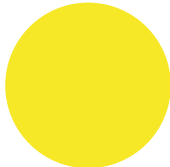
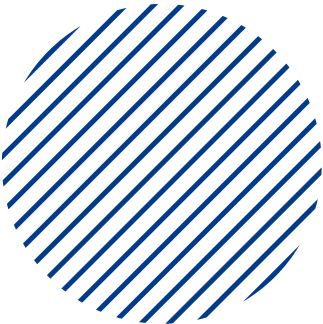
- **800+ individuals to be present on the premises at the same time, from time to time**

Enhanced Tier



SUMMARY

Education setting	Individuals on premises	Tier
Any setting	<200	out of scope
All schools	200+	standard tier
DfE funded further education	200+	standard tier
Privately funded further education	200-799	standard tier
Privately funded further education	799+	enhanced tier
Higher Education	200-799	standard tier
Higher Education	799+	enhanced tier



Individuals include staff, learners, visitors, volunteers, family members and members of the public who can reasonably be expected to be present on the premises at the same time, from time to time.

STANDARD TIER REQUIREMENTS

Standard tier settings will need to:

➤ Have a Responsible Person

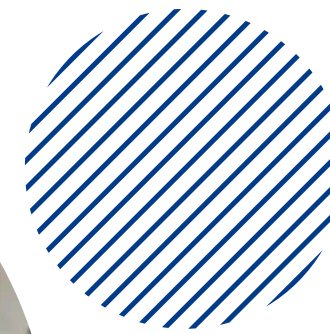
this will be the governing body, proprietor or local authority and is set by legislation

➤ Notify the SIA in the first instance

the responsible person must notify the SIA when they start and stop being responsible for that premises

➤ Have public protection procedures in place

the responsible person must make sure that so far as is reasonably practicable, appropriate public protection procedures are in place at the premises. These are evacuation, invacuation and lockdown

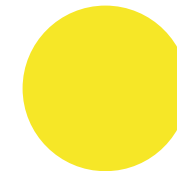


➤ **Evacuation**
to get people out of the premises

➤ **Invacuation**
to move people to a safe place

➤ **Lockdown**
to secure premises against attackers

➤ **Communication**
to alert people on premises to the danger



ENHANCED TIER REQUIREMENTS

Enhanced Tier settings applies only to higher education settings. They can also apply to further education settings that are not captured by the special consideration where it is reasonable to expect 800 or more individuals present on the premises at the same time, from time to time. They will need to:

➤ Ensure appropriate public protection measures are in place

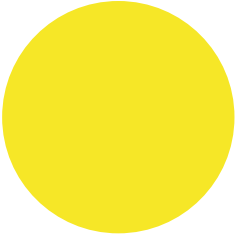
Monitoring through CCTV or patrols, movement measures to control or reduce movement within premises, physical safety and security measures such as secure doors, hostile vehicle mitigation, security of information such as safeguarding details about the premises that could help an attacker such as building plans etc.

➤ If the responsible person is an organisation or company rather than an individual appoint a senior individual to ensure compliance



➤ Document the measures and keep this up to date. Include how these steps will reduce the risk of physical harm to individuals.

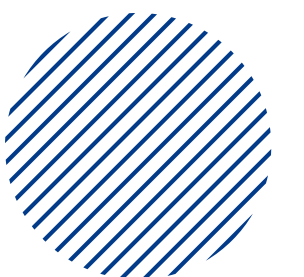
You must submit this document to the SIA as soon as you can after it is prepared. If you revise it, submit the revised version within 30 days.



RESPONSIBLE PERSON

For, primary and secondary education, further education, and higher education and childcare settings, the responsible person will normally be the Governing Body. If there is no Governing Body, it is the relevant Proprietor (who might be an individual or corporate body), except for pupil referral units, where the responsible person is the Local Authority.

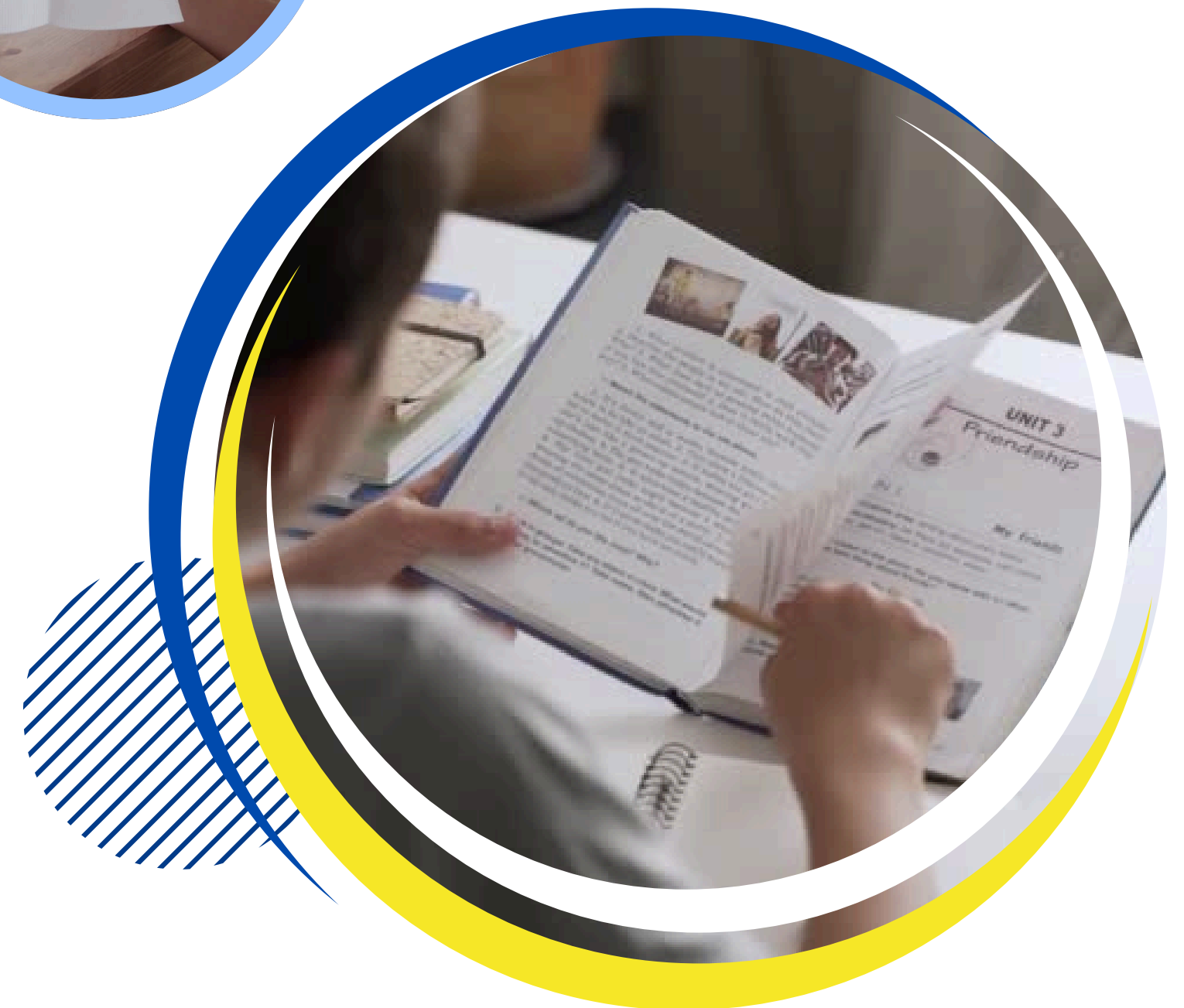
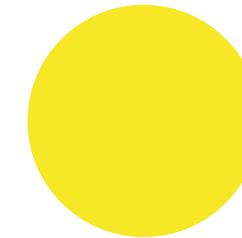
The responsible person is responsible for the setting's decisions under the Act. Individual governors, trustees, directors or other office holders may have specific duties associated with their particular governance or leadership role, but responsibility as the "responsible person" rests with the body or person identified by the Act.

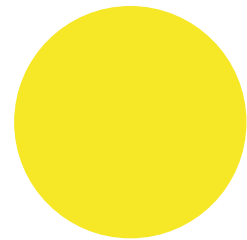


THIRD-PARTY PROVIDERS

The Department for Education does not endorse any third-party products or providers offering paid services to enhance security measures and preparedness for education settings.

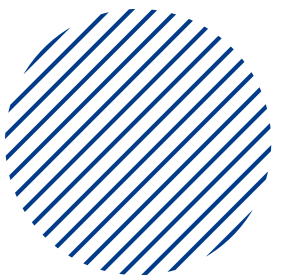
Martyn's law requires providers responsible for standard tier premises to take reasonably practical measures which are will not normally require third party support or additional physical security measures.





MARTYN'S LAW RESOURCES

- [ProtectUK](#)
- [DfE overview](#)
- [Home Office guidance](#)
- SIA guidance - soon to be published
- DfE guidance - soon to be published



FAQS



Why are schools treated differently?

Educational settings already have established emergency, safeguarding and security arrangements. Government sought to avoid placing disproportionate burdens on schools and colleges. Schools and Further Education settings that meet the threshold are generally subject to the Standard Tier requirements only, even where attendance exceeds 800 people. Premises with fewer than 200 people reasonably expected to be present at the same time are outside the scope of Marty'n's Law.



Should education settings and providers pay for products or services from third-party providers, e.g. security consultants?

The Department for Education, the Home Office and the National Counter Terrorism Security Office (NaCTSO) do not endorse any third-party products or providers who offer paid services to enhance security measures and preparedness for education settings.



FAQS



Are there an exemption for children / affected settings with trauma who will find lockdown drills etc. traumatising?

Premises within scope will need to consider what is reasonably practicable when designing their approach to security for their specific premises. The Act does not prescribe a one size fits all approach, the reasonably practicable procedures and measures will be dependent on the context of the premise.



How much will this cost?

The requirements are not intended to be onerous and should be integrated with wider safeguarding and security arrangements. The requirements should therefore be met from within existing resources.



FAQS



Will there be more webinars?

We plan to host a series of webinars in November 2026. We will circulate invites near to the time.



Do numbers include student and staff?

Yes - numbers should include students, staff and members of the public who may be present on the premises from time to time, at any one time.

