

Martyn's Law – Guidance for Schools

Protective security and preparedness for education settings

Introduction

Martyn's Law, known as the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, became law on 3 April 2025 and is expected to come into force during 2027. It aims to improve protective security and organisational preparedness by requiring those responsible for certain premises and events to plan their response to terrorist attacks and take proportionate steps to reduce vulnerabilities and protect all persons at the premise.

The Act is commonly known as Martyn's Law in memory of Martyn Hett, one of the 22 people killed in the Manchester Arena terrorist attack in 2017.

The Act has a tiered approach;

- Standard Tier applies to premises that are likely to have between 200 and 800 individuals on site.
- Enhanced Tier applies to a premise likely to have more than 800 persons on site.

All early years, primary, secondary, and further education settings with 200 or more persons, automatically fall into the Standard Tier, regardless of their total capacity or student numbers.

Settings that can reasonably expect fewer than 200 individuals to be present do not fall within the scope of the act but are encouraged to have preparedness plans for the safety of their learners and staff.

Further DfE guidance can be found below:

- [How Martyn's Law will affect education settings](#)
- [Protective security and preparedness for education settings - GOV.UK](#)
- [Protective security and preparedness self-assessment templates](#)