



# St Chad's College

## Durham

## Terrorism Incidents

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Updated: Epiphany 2025  
Review Due: Epiphany 2026

### Introduction

Attacks in the UK and abroad remind us all of the terrorist threat we face. Police and security agencies are working tirelessly to protect the public but it is also important that communities remain vigilant and aware of how to protect themselves if the need arises. In the North East of England there is probably a greater threat from local far-right nationalist and white supremacist groups than from international terrorism

National Counter Terrorism policing is providing advice to the public on the steps they can take to keep themselves safe in the rare event of a firearms or weapons attack.

The geography of the peninsula means that evacuation in the event of a terrorism incident on the Bailey requires pre-planning. Safety planning for major events including Congregations and Lumiere is managed by Durham Police along with Durham University following guidance from the UK Government as follows -

[ProtectUK | Home](#)

### RUN



Run to a place of safety. This is a far better option than to surrender or negotiate. If there's nowhere to go, then...

### HIDE



It's better to hide than to confront. Remember to turn your phone to silent and turn off vibrate. Barricade yourself in if you can. Then finally and only when it is safe to do so...

### TELL



Tell the police by calling 999.

## Alternative Evacuation Procedure

In consultation with the University Business Resilience Office, College has determined that an alternative evacuation procedure is not feasible, and could potentially be confusing, given the nature of our buildings and the restricted access and exits.

## Keep Calm

The situation is likely to be highly dynamic. Individuals will need to stay calm, evaluate the situation and determine the best course of action quickly.

*In dangerous situations, the number one life saving mentality is to stay positive so that you don't panic. You should remember to stay calm, not by saying, "stay calm", but by saying things like, "It's going to be OK, I know what to do, and I will be all right." Keep repeating this to yourself. It will help ensure that you actually do stay calm and remember everything else you need to do to get you and others to safety.*

## College Response

This will be determined by the responsible member of staff on the day. Decisions will need to be made quickly. There may not be time to consult anyone more senior. Possible responses could include:

**Evacuation** – sound the fire alarm. In any evacuation (fire or other) the assembly point is the middle of Palace Green. If evacuating for a terrorist threat staff should assess any additional risks that may be at the assembly point. Keep away from vehicles, look for suspicious people. If necessary redirect students to another assembly point (e.g. St John's College, DSU (across Kingsgate Bridge or the Market Place)

**Invacuation** – if the threat is on the Bailey encourage people to come into the building (students and passers by) but do not delay if they won't come in. Lock the external doors if possible. Remain in the building. Contact emergency services.

**Hiding from an attacker** If you cannot escape, lock or barricade yourself in a safe haven. Stay low and keep quiet, stay away from doors and windows. Put your phone(s) on silent, turn off the vibrate function and call 999 or 112. If you cannot speak call 999 or 112 but when asked for a response tap in 55 – this alerts the operator that you cannot speak – leave the line connected.