

Inscape House School's prevent strategy

Inscape House School's Prevent Strategy has been written in response to and in line with government guidance and forms part of the government's counter terrorism strategy which seeks to:

- Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and aspects of extremism, and the threat faced from those who promote these views
- Provide practical help to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support
- Work with a wide range of sectors where there are risks of radicalisation which need to be addressed, including education, criminal justice, faith, charities, the internet and health

All schools are required by law to teach a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes the spiritual, moral and cultural development of students and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life. We do this through our RESPECT curriculum. RESPECT is a combination of Religious Education, Social and Personal Education and Citizenship. The name was selected to reflect, not only the content of the subject, but also the main aim - Teaching respect **for myself, for my friends, for my community and my world**. Although each of the curriculum areas within RESPECT has its own distinct aims, objectives and subject content, it is our belief that these areas can and do complement each other and provide a well balanced education for all our pupils.

The subject of Religious Education attracts strong feelings, commitment and sometimes controversy. School life provides a secure environment in which students can develop their knowledge and understanding of the observable and deeper aspects of religion. They are challenged to think about and share their own beliefs and values as well as to appreciate the insights of others whom they will meet and work with. This links closely to the new **PREVENT Strategy (2015)** and the expectations of schools to safeguard its pupils against radicalisation through education and monitoring.

The purpose of Inscape House School's Prevent Strategy is to protect students from harm and to ensure that they are taught in a way that is consistent with the law and British values. To this end it acts to;

- Raise awareness
- Provide information
- Enable learners to make a positive contribution
- Safeguard young people

At Inscape House School students participate in a curriculum that promotes active learning and develops critical personal thinking skills. This enables students to explore social and emotional aspects of learning throughout the curriculum. The School actively promotes diversity and shared values between the school community, the local community, the national and global community.

This is supported through the school's adoption of the philosophy and beliefs enshrined in a contemporary view of autism, which includes:

The belief that people with autism can continue to develop skills and strategies that enable them to participate as independent, valued citizens enjoying equal rights and opportunities, is reflected in practice

The belief that an eclectic, flexible approach using detailed personal resources is necessary to support the development of individual skills, is reflected in practice

The belief that through working alongside people with autism, developing 'power with' relationships, effective strategies can be developed that enable them to contribute to and be consulted on all aspects of their lives, is reflected in practice

The belief that consultation through listening to people who use the service and their representatives is key to effective, evolving practice, is reflected in practice

We also do this by actively teaching the values of RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY and SAFETY. These values help to form the basis of our students understanding of wider communities and there are numerous academic and pastoral opportunities that embed this ethos. The school challenges all prejudices including Islamophobia and anti-Semitism recognising students who are at risk of isolation. The emphasis on pastoral care through the Class group, Therapy and Additional Support system, Positive Behaviour Support, assemblies and other activities ensure that the school is a safe place to learn and that anti bullying strategies minimise hate and prejudice based bullying. The school seeks justice for incidences of such bullying and uses a range of approaches to repair harm when caused.

Whilst responding to our legal responsibilities with regard to PREVENT, it has been clearly recognised through actual cases that pupils attending Inscape are highly vulnerable, through their actions online. We are working closely with local multi-agency safeguarding teams to provide support for families so that the team around each of our pupils are well informed to keep them safe. We welcome the open and honest discussions we have had with families to help with what can be very difficult, challenging and upsetting conversations.

What is the Prevent strategy?

Prevent is a government strategy designed to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorist or extremist causes.

The Prevent strategy covers all types of terrorism and extremism, including the extreme right wing, religious extremists and other causes.

How does the Prevent strategy apply to schools?

From July 2015 all schools (as well as other organisations) have a duty to safeguard children from radicalisation and extremism.

This means we have a responsibility to protect children from extremist and violent views in the same way we protect them from drugs or gang violence.

Importantly, we can provide a safe place for pupils to discuss these issues so they better understand how to protect themselves

What does this mean in practice?

Many of the things we already do in school to help children become positive, happy members of society also contribute to the Prevent strategy.

These include:

- Exploring other cultures and religions and promoting diversity
- Challenging prejudices and racist comments
- Developing critical thinking skills and a strong, positive self-identity
- Promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils, as well as British values such as democracy

We will also protect children from the risk of radicalisation, for example by using filters on the internet to make sure they can't access extremist and terrorist material, or by vetting visitors who come into school to work with pupils.

Frequently Asked Questions

How does Prevent relate to British values?

Schools have been required to promote British values since 2014, and this will continue to be part of our response to the Prevent strategy.

British values include:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty and mutual respect
- Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

Isn't my child too young to learn about extremism?

The Prevent strategy is not just about discussing extremism itself, which may not be appropriate for younger children. It is also about teaching children values such as tolerance and mutual respect.

The school will make sure any discussions are suitable for the age and maturity of the children involved.

Is extremism really a risk in our area?

Extremism can take many forms, including political, religious and misogynistic extremism. Some of these may be a bigger threat in our area than others.

We will give children the skills to protect them from any extremist views they may encounter, now or later in their lives.

KEY TERMS

Extremism – vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values such as democracy, the rule of law and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

Ideology – a set of beliefs

Terrorism – a violent action against people or property, designed to create fear and advance a political, religious or ideological cause

Where to go for more information

Contact the school

If you have any questions or concerns about the Prevent strategy and what it means for your child, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

See our policies

You will find more details about radicalisation in our safeguarding policy, available on our website.

We also have information about spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and British values.

External sources

The following sources may also be useful for further information:

Prevent duty guidance: for England and Wales, HM Government

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/417943/Prevent_Duty_Guidance_England_Wales.pdf

Frequently asked questions, Prevent For Schools
http://www.preventforschools.org/?category_id=38

What is Prevent? Let's Talk About It
<http://www.ltai.info/what-is-prevent/>



The logo for Inscape House School features the word "inscape" in a large, dark blue, lowercase sans-serif font. Below it, the words "house" and "school" are written in a smaller, pink, lowercase sans-serif font, separated by a vertical line.

The PREVENT Strategy