

Safeguarding our students from radicalisation - PREVENT

At Hillcrest School and Sixth Form Centre the students and staff take pride in the fact that we all come from diverse cultures and backgrounds. But we also understand the pressures and complexities this brings on and are keen to explore the issues in a more humane way. Our schools key aim is to promote fundamental British values.

We recognise the multi-cultural, multi-faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom. We also understand the vital role we have in ensuring that groups, or individuals, within the school are not subjected to intimidation or radicalisation by those wishing to pressurise, or illegally influence them.

Students at Hillcrest School and Sixth Form Centre come from all over the world and we aim to instil the British values outlined by the government in all students, so that they all understand what the people of our society see as being important and what we feel is right and wrong. We actively promote a culture of mutual respect and tolerance, democracy, the rule of law, equal opportunities and freedom. British values permeate throughout the school curriculum and support the development of the whole child.

We follow equal opportunities guidance which guarantees that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political or financial status or similar. We are dedicated to preparing students for their adult life beyond the formal examined curriculum and ensuring that it promotes and reinforces British values to all its students.

Many languages are spoken at Hillcrest School and Sixth Form Centre which reflects how multicultural we are. Students here experience diversity on a day-to-day basis. Through assemblies, RE, PSHE and Citizenship and many other subject areas we deal with issues such as prejudice, discrimination, racism, sexism and bullying.

Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is part of schools' and childcare providers' wider safeguarding duties, and is similar in nature to protecting children from other harms (e.g. drugs, gangs, neglect, sexual exploitation), whether these come from within their family or are the product of outside influences.

There could be possibly many indicators which can tell us whether an individual is being targeted by an extremist group or under the influence of extremist ideology e.g. possessing or being associated with material or symbols associated with an extremist cause (e.g. the swastika for far-right groups), being in communication with suspected extremists, use of internet or other social media sites associated with extremism.

Further guidance for parents/carers can be located by clicking on the 'Keeping Children Safe' icon on our homepage.