

Document 3 Helping Homestays with Prevent

Telling homestays about their safeguarding obligations around Prevent needs to be done sensitively.

Homestay obligations

Homestays have to comply with Prevent duty as follows:

- (a) understand what Prevent is and what it is trying to achieve
- (b) exemplify the 4 core British values
- (c) know that they have to pass on any concerns they have about their students
- (d) know who to contact (the Prevent lead) at the ELT provider, and how to do that

The person in the homestay who signs the contract with the ELT provider needs to know about Prevent.

ELT provider obligations

- 1) to inform homestays what they have to do
- 2) to give them training
- 3) to ensure that homestays are meeting their Prevent duty obligations

1) Informing homestays what they have to do

Looking at the homestay obligations above, ELT providers should think how best to present these to homestays in such a way as to

- make them easy to understand (being brief is a good start and using simple language)
- presented in a positive light; that they are about safety for everyone, and that homestays are probably already doing a lot of things required by Prevent

Here are some ideas for possible wording to homestays, relating to each homestay obligation.

(a) Prevent is a government approach we need to know about. (The school) has a duty to safeguard our students, of all ages, and protect them against the likelihood of getting drawn into any form of extremism, e.g. religious extremism, homophobia, right-wing ideology. People are considered extremists when they propose using violence to achieve what they believe in.

(b) Something all of us, staff and homestays, are expected to do is to exemplify the core British values which have been identified by the government as

- i) democracy*
- ii) rule of law*
- iii) freedom of the individual*
- iv) respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs – and following the Equality Act*

Our homestays already play a very important role in our students' lives. We are now asking for a little bit more help, although you are probably already doing many of the things required in exemplifying the core British values, perhaps without realising it. For example, you will have rules about things students can and can't do in your house, and you yourselves will follow UK laws (rule of law). I expect you often give students choices about things to do in your house or during their free time (freedom of the individual). Without doubt you will be showing respect and tolerance of those with other faiths and beliefs because you accept international students into your home. If you have more than one student, you would help them understand the need for respect and tolerance of each other. The Equality Act states that we must not discriminate against people in UK because of race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, disability etc. and we would hope that all our homestays follow that law already.

(c) & (d) You need to be alert for anyone whose behaviour might cause concern in regard to extremism and report that the school's Prevent lead. That is _____ (name) who can be called on _____ or emailed on _____

It is important to ensure that contact details (and the name of the Prevent Lead) are updated across all related documentation when changes occur.

2) Training options for homestays

Online training is available from ETF, who have prepared the other online training sessions specifically for FE institutions. <http://www.foundationonline.org.uk/course/index.php?categoryid=14> The module for homestays is free and homestays will receive a certificate once they complete the assessment; however, we suggest you trial it first to see whether it is suitable for your homestays.

Training via email / hard copy. ELT providers can also pass Prevent information to homestays and have evidence that the homestay has received the information, read it, understood it and accepted it.

Face-to-face training.

- i) For new homestays joining the ELT provider, explaining the homestay's Prevent obligations can become part of the recruitment process
- ii) For existing homestays discussion about Prevent can become part of the regular homestay visit
- iii) Some ELT providers offer social/information sharing evenings (including food and drink) for homestays and provide Prevent information that way. Some providers require attendance at such evenings (e.g. 2 out of 4 per year) as part of a homestay contract.

3) Ensure homestays are meeting their Prevent obligations

The easiest way is to insert a **sentence into the homestay contract**, e.g.

- will follow Prevent duty obligations and ensure other members of the homestay do the same'

Or have a separate sub-section to sign, e.g. 'I agree that all members of the homestay will meet their Prevent duty obligations as outlined in the Prevent information sent earlier/with this contract, or as outlined in the Homestay Handbook'.

In addition, ELT providers must be alert to feedback given by students about what is happening in their homestay and possibly sometimes be proactive in questioning students on Prevent-related issues, particularly if the provider has any concerns relating to a particular homestay.

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