



## ISCA Terrorism Response Policy

With the recent rise of terrorist attacks in Europe in the past few years, it is vital that we are all aware of our ***Terrorism Response Policy***. This has been created to offer a guide as to how real or potential threats will be dealt with during the three weeks. These policies are only a guide but our response should always be '***to calmly remove our group from danger or potential danger***'. Naturally our focus is on London days but the procedure applies for all off-campus days.

As you read through our policies I cannot emphasise enough the importance of all decisions being made in a calm and reasonable manner. Naturally the physical wellbeing of everyone on our programme is paramount but *we must not forget the importance of their mental wellbeing*. Our students are away from home, in a country they do not know with new friends from across the globe. It is vitally important that any steps we take are made in a relaxed and calm manner to shield them from any anxiety arising from a sudden and 'panicked' change of plan.

### **Decision Making Process**

All decisions on the planning of days will be made by the senior leadership team. Once a decision has been made this will be shared with the senior group leader from each school and ISCA Heads of House. Heads of Houses will then be responsible for passing this decision on to their ISCA Staff.

If a situation arises off campus the immediate ISCA response, listed below, will be implemented and then each senior ISCA coach leader will be responsible for their coach groups.

## **Senior Leadership Team**

Luke Liddle, Managing Director

Freya Liddle, General Manager

Ian Daly, Programme Director

Michael McLaughlin, International Faculty Director

## **ISCA Terrorism Response**

There are two sides of this policy that everyone should be aware of:

### ***1. Threats arising when we are off campus***

### ***2. Potential threats to off-campus days***

#### **1. Threats arising when we are off campus**

By far in a way our biggest threat is an incident taking place when we are off campus, particularly during the London days. Each day has been specifically planned to minimise exposure to roads and crowded unsecure public spaces. However, if an incident does happen the following basic but easy-to-implement steps should be taken:

- All male ISCA and international staff should move between the group and the threat, creating the back of the group.
- All female ISCA staff should move away from the threat, creating the front of the group.
- Female ISCA staff will then lead the group away from the threat and to a safe area where the senior ISCA staff member will take control.
- All staff should remain vigilant and should always be aware of where safe areas are. Naturally we cannot list these so common sense and vigilance should be used whenever off campus. Always plan for the worst-case scenario.

Our priority after establishing our group will be linking up with the coaches who will be aware of our terrorism response policies. It is vitally important that you always have your phone to hand to receive further instruction.

## **2. Potential threats to off-campus days**

The Managing Director and Programme Director will be in contact with security services in London before we enter the capital. This is standard procedure and has been done for the last 8 years. Naturally these checks take on a new importance in light of recent events. Staff should be aware that a hierarchy of information must exist in order to implement our response.

Each day before we go into London the Managing Director and Programme Director will make a judgement on the suitability of our trip to the capital following advice from the Metropolitan Police and JTAC (Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre). In the event of a green light not being granted (there is a tiered daily threat level) the Senior Leadership Team will meet to make a decision on how to progress. This decision will then be shared with the senior group leaders from each school and ISCA Heads of House and our day will adapt accordingly.

For each day we are planning to go into London we have alternative arrangements in place. This is called the ISCA Peace of Mind Programme. This will include trips to Cambridge, Leeds Castle, Brighton, Warwick Castle and the New Forest. Each day has been prepared and planned enabling us to decide, as we step onto the coach, to avoid London if necessary. Should this situation arise, it is vitally important that all staff members ensure the transition is smooth and calm. Once again, the mental wellbeing of everyone on our programme is just as important as their physical wellbeing.

### **Summary**

We are all here to ensure that each and every one of our students and international faculty have a safe and secure three-week adventure. Whilst we should of course be aware of these policies we should not allow them to distract from what we do best: giving the students an unforgettable three-week experience. In everything we do we should follow that oh-so-English motto: ***Keep Calm and Carry On.***