

Understanding 'soft skills' development at independent schools

An analysis of mental toughness at UK independent schools

January 2017

Webinar
For ISC independent schools
Wednesday 25th January 2017 | 4 - 5pm
[INFORMATION AND SIGN-UP](#)

In January 2017 the Independent Schools Council and AQR International released a study into the development of 'soft skills' with pupils in independent schools.

Using the [Mental Toughness 4Cs framework and the MTQ48 psychometric measure](#), data was gathered from almost 10,000 pupils in 60 schools.

The analysis of the data and the resulting report has provided a wealth of useful and valuable information about the extent to which what is widely known as 'character and resilience' is developed in schools.

This is an important area of development. Research shows that this cluster of qualities correlates with attainment, wellbeing, positive behaviour and aspirations.

Mental toughness is an aspect of our personality which determines how we deal with stress and pressure and how we can see change as a source of opportunity to grow and to develop. It embraces almost all of the ideas in this area.

In this webinar AQR International will explain the report and its findings as well as providing an opportunity to ask questions about the study and what it means for schools.

This session, for ISC member independent schools, will look at this important area and will examine:

- Introduction to the research and the report.
- How it was carried out - why the mental toughness framework and MTQ48
- Key results - what do they tell us?
- What schools might usefully consider.

There will be an opportunity to submit questions.

Presenters

Doug Strycharczyk is the CEO of AQR International and project lead for the study.

Steve Oakes is Director for Education for AQR International and carried out much of the initial training for the study. He leads on all activities in the Schools sector across the UK.

Both are carrying out PhDs to examine mental toughness assessment and development in young people.

For any further information please email Doug Strycharczyk at doug@aqr.co.uk