ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

DATE	9TH SEPTEMBER 2024
PREPARED BY	MS. ANN MARIYA SUNNY, COUNSELOR
REVIEWED BY	MS. MARY BRIGEET, VICE PRINCIPAL
APPROVED BY	DR. SAIFUDHEEN P. HAMSA

المدرسة الهندية
الجديدة
أم القيوين

THE NEW
INDIAN SCHOOL
Umm Al Quwain

At THE NEW INDIAN SCHOOL, we are committed to providing a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment where all students can thrive. Bullying in any form is detrimental to the well-being of our students, and it is our duty to prevent and address such behavior. This anti-bullying policy outlines our school's approach to preventing, reporting, and addressing bullying incidents. Anti-bullying policies are essential in creating safe and inclusive environments, whether in schools, workplaces, or communities. These policies aim to prevent, address, and mitigate any form of bullying, ensuring the well-being and rights of individuals are protected.

Definition

Bullying is a form of aggressive behavior in which someone intentionally and repeatedly causes another person injury or discomfort. Bullying can take the form of physical contact, words, or more subtle actions.

Bullying is repeated and targeted aggression and does not need to be physical in order to be hurtful. Physical bullying may be more present during the elementary school years, while more covert forms such as social and cyber-bullying can take precedence during high school.

Physical Bullying

Includes hitting, kicking, shoving, spitting, beating up, stealing or damaging property.

While physical bullying causes harm to a child's body or property, the below forms of bullying cause psychological harm. Such offensive, degrading and rejecting behaviours undermine and destabilize victimized children's sense of themselves, of their place in the school, and of their place in the world.

Verbal Bullying

Includes name-calling, mocking, hurtful teasing, insults, slurs, humiliating or threatening someone, racist comments, or sexual harassment.

Social Bullying

Includes rolling your eyes or turning away from someone, excluding others from the group, getting others to ignore or exclude, gossiping or spreading rumours, setting others up to look foolish, and damaging reputations and friendships.

Electronic or Cyberbullying

Includes the use of email, cell phones, text messages, and internet sites to threaten, harass, embarrass, socially exclude, or damage reputations and friendships.

Racial Bullying

Includes treating people badly because of their racial or ethnic background, saying bad things about a cultural background, calling someone racist names or telling racist jokes.

Religious Bullying

Includes treating people badly because of their religious background or beliefs, making negative comments about a religious background or belief, calling someone names or telling jokes based on his of her religious beliefs in an effort to hurt them.

Sexual Bullying

Includes leaving someone out; treating them badly, or making them feel uncomfortable because of their sex; making sexist comments or jokes; touching, pinching or grabbing someone in a sexual way; making crude comments about someone's sexual behaviour or orientation; or spreading a sexual rumour.

AIM

Our anti-bullying policy aims to:

- Create a safe and inclusive school environment.
- Promote respect, tolerance, and empathy among students.
- Prevent and address bullying incidents promptly and effectively.

Support the well-being of victims and provide intervention for perpetrators.

Our school believes that:

- All children and young people have the right for an educational environment which is free from harassment and bullying.

- Physical, verbal, emotional, intrusive, innuendo, racist and sexual bullying is to be dealt with very seriously within the frame of existing state law Promoting a secure, happy and caring environment where kindness and helpfulness are expected and respect should be promoted.

- Praising and rewarding positive behavior benefits of the pupils and the community as a whole.

- Students learn to respect themselves and others if crucial self-esteem is promoted.

- Reducing emotional distress due to any kind of bullying ensures happy school time for all children.

Prevention and Education:

- Implement anti-bullying programs and awareness campaigns to educate students about the impact of bullying.

- Promote a culture of respect, empathy, and tolerance through the school's curriculum.

- Encourage students to be upstanders and report bullying incidents.

- Train staff members to recognize, address, and prevent bullying effectively.

PROCEDURE

- The management confirms that appropriate supervision and monitory practices are in place to prevent and deal with bullying behavior as per MOE guidelines.

- Teachers in our school take all forms of bullying seriously, and intervene to prevent incidents from taking place .They keep their own records of all incidents that happen in their classes and that they are aware in the school.

- If they witness an act of bullying they do all they can support the child. They also refer the case to school counsellor.
- Raising an awareness of the importance of anti-bullying.
- Early intervention on detection.
- Prevention of harassment.
- Bullying will be dealt with sternly suspension or expulsion according to the gravity of the offence.

LINKS TO LEGISLATION

There are a number of pieces of legislation which set out measures and actions for schools in response to bullying, as well as criminal and civil law. These may include (but are not limited to):

- The Education and Inspection Act 2006, 2011
- The Equality Act 2010
- The Children Act 1989
- Federal Law No.3 (Wadeema's Law) on Child Rights 2016

THE NEW INDIAN SCHOOL is committed to creating a school environment where bullying is not tolerated, and every student feels safe and respected. This policy is a living document that will be reviewed and updated regularly to ensure its effectiveness in preventing and addressing bullying incidents. Together, as a school community, we can promote a culture of kindness, empathy, and respect for all.