



## **CORPORAL PUNISHMENT POLICY**

### **DEFINITIONS:**

“Corporal punishment is defined as any physical chastisement that inflicts harm on a student and causes him/her pain or discomfort even if it is light, such as holding and shaking, slapping or hitting with a cane, by hand or any other object.”

“Corporal punishment , a physical punishment inflicted on a child by a teacher or any adult in authority is as a form of discipline, and is considered as Physical abuse.”

“School corporal punishment refers to causing deliberate pain or discomfort in response to undesired behaviour by students in schools”.

### **AIM OF THE POLICY**

- To make it clear to all employees of the school that all forms of corporal punishment of students are strictly prohibited and unacceptable.
- To create a safe and attractive learning environment, where students are adequately protected

### **POLICY**

Any form of corporal punishment of students is strictly prohibited in IIS. While at School, students should feel secure from all types of physical punishment and abuse. Schools shall maintain an atmosphere of mutual respect, trust and courtesy between students, teachers, staff and administrators. Schools are required to promote positive student behaviour at all times including when applying disciplinary actions for student misconduct.

If any incident of corporal punishment occurs, whether the incident is proven or suspected, it is the responsibility of the Principal (or in the case of the offence being carried out by the Principal, the Chair of Board of Trustees or School Owner) to:

- Take immediate action
- Report the incident immediately to concerned Parents/Guardians.
- Immediately suspend any member of staff who is accused of abusing any student, until the investigation is completed and a decision is made concerning the member of staff's eligibility to continue to work.
- Carry out a formal investigation obtaining written statements from those involved.
- Anyone found guilty of committing abuse will immediately be dismissed.

## **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### Principal

- Ensure that the School adopts a robust policy prohibiting all forms of corporal punishment.
- Immediate action for corporal punishment incidents and reporting to concerned parents/authority.

### Section Heads

- Report immediately to the Principal and carry out a formal investigation if the Principal demands.
- Ensure corporal punishment free section.
- Encourage teachers to adopt other effective techniques of behaviour control than corporal punishment.

### Counsellors/ CSE department

- Ensure a caring and supporting environment for students.
- Help leadership team to ensure corporal punishment free campus.
- Give psychological support to the victim of corporal punishment.
- Minimise the negative attitude towards the complainant after reporting an incident to school authority.
- Help school leadership for formal investigation if needed and its documentation.

## **POLICY PROCEDURE**

### **CORPORAL PUNISHMENT INCIDENT INSIDE SCHOOL PREMISES**



**Direct Complaint to Principal by Student/parent/peer**



1. Complaint Registration
2. Formal Investigation (CPO will allot the staff)
3. Hearing
4. Report to Parents
5. Written Statements from Accused
6. Action by CPO

**Complaint to class teacher/ Section Head/ any other staff member**



Immediate report to Section Head/ Principal

### **Don'ts in the Policy Procedure**

- No staff is supposed to emotionally weaken or threaten the complainant at or after the complaint registration.
- No staff is supposed to indulge in the investigation procedure without the Principal's permission.
- No staff is supposed to discourage the victim from reporting the incident. · No staff is supposed to influence the witnesses in any way, No staff is supposed to compromise corporal punishment incidents without reporting to Section Head /Principal.
- No staff is supposed to communicate with the parents or guardians regarding the incident without instruction from the Principal/Section Head.
- No staff is supposed to keep a negative attitude towards the victim/witness after the incident.
- No staff is supposed to delay in reporting.

### **IMPORTANT NOTES**

A federal law was implemented in 1998 which banned school corporal punishment in the UAE. The law applied to all schools, both public and private. Any teacher who engages in the practice would not only lose their job and teaching license, but will also face criminal prosecution for engaging in violence against minors and will also face child abuse charges.

Employees of the school community are strictly cautioned not to undertake any of the following measures when dealing with students:

- Physical punishment of any type, kind or form
- Preventing students from nutrition
- Provoking, ridiculing and mocking students
- Preventing the student from using the toilet
- Psychological punishment such as a verbal insult or threat
- Limiting the student's freedom or locked detention in school
- Seising student personal property by individual decision without the decision of the School Behaviour Management Committee
- Reducing the subject's grades or threatening to do so
- Dismissing the student from the class, activity or school during the school day by an individual decision, and leaving the student without supervision
- Anything similar to these procedures shall be considered to be contrary to the rules and regulations at the discretion of the School Behaviour Management Committee.

These acts will be dealt with effectively by the policy guidelines of school child protection.