



CANARY THE SCHOOL

# **Child protection Policy**

## **Mission Statement of the School**

To prepare committed, responsible young citizens by instilling advanced skills through inquiry and rigorous assessments who are culturally rooted with a global perspective, are in harmony with self, community and nature; have the courage to take risks with integrity and academic honesty, apply what they have learned for a purpose and make appropriate decisions and choices bringing in positive change in themselves and the community.

## **Vision of the School**

To create a happy school community that supports intellectual evolution and collaborative learning for students, where every child imbibes 'how to learn' rather than 'what to learn'.

## **Overarching Principles for Child protection Policy**

Canary The school believes that every student has the right to develop themselves emotionally, intellectually and physically. All children have equal rights to protection from any form of violence, abuse or neglect.

Every member of staff in Canary the School has the responsibility to safeguard and promote the physical and social-emotional wellbeing of all children.

Canary The School is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all the children is taken into consideration when developing and delivering school activities.

All staff have an equal responsibility to report to a child protection team member any suspicion or disclosure suggesting a child is at risk of harm, to himself or others, in accordance with the protection procedures described in this policy.

Every member of staff will sign and adhere to staff code of conduct. This agreement has guidelines of safe professional practice for the protection of the whole community.

All students and staff involved in child protection issues will receive appropriate support from the school administration who are charged with applying this policy.

## Aims:

To provide all staff with the necessary information to enable them to meet their statutory responsibilities to promote and safeguard the wellbeing of children

To ensure best practices are consistent across the school.

To maintain hiring practices that ensures the safety of children.

To demonstrate the school's commitment and compliance with procedures with regard to safeguarding children.

## Policy Statement

Child abuse and neglect are concerns throughout the world. Child abuse and neglect are violations of a child's human rights and are obstacles to the child's education as well as to their physical, emotional, and spiritual development.

Canary The School endorses the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and National Child Protection Policy, of which our host country, India, is a signatory and seeks to be a safe haven for students who may be experiencing abuse or neglect in any aspect of their lives. Schools fill a special institutional role in society as protectors of children.

The Canary community must ensure that all children in our care are afforded a safe and secure environment in which to grow and develop.

Canary staff, having the opportunity to observe and interact with children over time, is in a unique position to identify children who are in need of help and protection.

All School staff has the obligation to understand the main crimes against minors for Indian law and the related duties to report these crimes. Therefore, all members of staff are legal mandatory reporters and have a professional and ethical obligation to be alert to the signs of neglect or abuse and inform concerns of suspected abuse or neglect.

Procedures are initiated as directed by school policy and regulations in accordance with local authorities and Indian child protection laws.

School will make every effort to implement hiring practices to ensure the safety of children and will review the policy annually for child protection law and regulation compliance and effectiveness. In the case of a staff member reported as an alleged offender, the School will follow a carefully designed course of action in accordance with Indian law and regulations, keeping the safety and wellbeing of the child as the highest priority

## Child abuse:

According to the World Health Organization child abuse constitutes “all forms of physical and/or emotional ill-treatment, sexual abuse, neglect or negligent treatment or commercial or other exploitation, resulting in actual or potential harm to the child’s health, survival, development or dignity in the context of a relationship of responsibility, trust or power.”

#### Physical abuse

Physical abuse of a child is defined as the intentional use of physical force against a child that results in – or has a high likelihood of resulting in – harm for the child’s health, survival, development or dignity. This includes hitting, beating, kicking, shaking, biting, strangling, scalding, burning, poisoning and suffocating.

#### Sexual abuse

Sexual abuse is defined as the involvement of a child in sexual activity that he or she does not fully comprehend, is unable to give informed consent to, or for which the child is not developmentally prepared, or else that violates the laws or social taboos of society.

#### Emotional and psychological abuse

Emotional and psychological abuse involves both isolated incidents, as well as a pattern of failure over time on the part of a parent or caregiver to provide a developmentally appropriate and supportive environment. Acts in this category may have a high probability of damaging the child’s physical or mental health, or its physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development. Abuse of this type includes: the restriction of movement; patterns of belittling, blaming, threatening, frightening, discriminating against or ridiculing; and other non-physical forms of rejection or hostile treatment.

#### Neglect

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child’s basic physical and / or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child’s health or development.

#### **Reporting:**

Students are trained and notified to report to the staff.

Staff will bring to the notice of the coordinators and SM team.

Parents will be called in necessary scenarios and students along with the parents are counselled.

#### **Measures which are taken at Canary The School in order to protect from any sort of damage and danger: (Action from and at School)**

- Training our canarians regarding good touch and bad touch
- The whole school is under CCTV vigilance
- No touch policy is being shared with the sub staff as well and also whoever handle the canarians

- Regular awareness regarding child protection is being created in the whole school community
  - Student council taking up responsibility for counselling and talking to the students regarding the same
  - Security checks will happen when any visitor wants to enter the campus.
  - Gate passes are issued for the canarians and the facilitators when they take permission to go out of the campus.
  - Parental pick up cards are issued for the parents for canarains' safe pick up
  - As a school, focus on happy community ie happiness from within in a safe and secured school environment.
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The committees to be headed by the Director

Other members: Principal, PYPC and Senior School Coordinator

Head of POCSO committee is called Child Protection Officer.

**References:**

Ministry of Women and Child Development: National Child Protection Policy

Child protection policies and procedures toolkit (UNICEF)