Child Safeguarding Policy

"Every child is a different kind of flower and all together make this world a beautiful garden."

Purpose

Buds Public School (BPS) is a safe and secure place where children have a fundamental right to feel safe and protected from any form of abuse. Therefore, we aim to provide secure, caring environments, highly skilled and aware staff, and a curriculum which promotes self-esteem, nurtures well-being and empowers children to protect themselves. Wellbeing and safety of our students are our first priority.

All staff and volunteers who work alongside children are thoroughly checked to ensure they present no threat to young people. Where allegations are made against adults or other young people, these are always treated seriously and investigated by the appropriate authority. Where necessary, such investigations may be handed over to agencies outside the school to take action.

The Principal and all other staff who work with children undertake appropriate training to equip them to carry out their responsibilities for child protection effectively. Temporary staff and volunteers who work with children are made aware of the school's arrangements for child protection and their responsibilities. All students have been informed about the first line of information/complaints and they are aware of to whom they should approach.

BPS recognizes that it helps children keep safe through the teacher of self-protection skills and encouragement of responsible attitudes to adult life through life skills or a similar personal, social and health education/citizenship program.

Roles and responsibilities

Governor for Child Protection	Principal – Mr. Donald Weilson
Child Protection Officer	School Counsellor – Ms. Thehila Lotus
Assistant Child Protection Officer	Head of Inclusion – Ms. Gnanapriya
First Point of Contact	Class Teacher

This policy applies to all staff, volunteers working in BPS and visitors.

Governor for Child Protection will ensure the following:

1. Ensure the cultivation of a safe and happy learning environment for all the students, staff and other personnel related to school.
2. Identify the child protection officer in school.
3. Lead the child protection policy and procedures in school by dedicating sufficient time and resources in school.
4. Respond to any challenges pertaining to child safety.
5. Updating and reviewing the child protection policy annually.

Child Protection Officer will ensure the following:

1. Training others for identification of signs of abuse.
2. Give access to and develop understanding of School's Child Protection Policy in each member of the staff, especially new or part-time staff via training.

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3. Have a working knowledge of how child protection agencies operate, the conduct of a child protection case conference, and be able to attend and contribute to these effectively when required to do so
4. Be able to keep detailed, accurate and secure written records of referrals/concerns.
5. Obtain access to resources and attend any relevant or refresher training courses regarding child protection.
6. Conducting awareness workshops to build clear understanding on child protection policy for students, staff and parents.
7. Providing training/workshops to teachers, students and parents around areas pertinent to child abuse and neglect (self-esteem, motivation, parent-child bonding).

Assistant Child Protection Officer will ensure the following:

1. The policies and procedures adopted by the School management are fully implemented and followed by all staff.
2. They must ensure that there are no physical punishments given to any student in school by any of the staff members.
3. Sufficient resources and time are allocated to enable the child protection officer and other staff to carry out their duties properly.
4. Create a conducive environment for teaching and learning on a day-to-day basis.
5. Address any concerns brought to them sensitively and in a timely manner.
6. Implementation of behaviour management policies.

Child abuse can take a variety of forms, which can become apparent to us in the school situation. Physical, sexual and emotional abuse of children is said to be increasingly common. If you are concerned that one of your pupils has any signs of abuse it is vital that you report your concerns to the Principal or School Counsellor.

Violation

A violation of this policy includes:

1. Inappropriate comments about a student's appearance.
2. Use of inappropriate pet names.
3. Jokes of sexual nature.
4. Obscene gestures and languages.
5. Facilitating access to pornographic material.
6. Discussing personal lifestyle details of self or others.
7. Sharing of personal information about other staff or students.

Procedure of Reporting Complaints

If a parent or teacher wishes to register a complaint related to abuse or neglect, they may do the following:

1. Report to the child protection officer and school doctor.
2. The child protection officer must immediately inform the Principal of the school. The head may need to verify dates, places and personnel involved.
3. The person against whom the complaint is made must not be directly involved.
4. Must not take longer than 1 working day.

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5. The presumption of innocence and the need of confidentiality will both be respected.

Key Contacts (Within School)

Child Protection Officer

Name: – Ms. Thehila Lotus

Email: thehila.tr387@budsdxb.ae

Governor for Child Protection

Name: Mr. Donald Weilson – Principal

Email: principal@budsdxb.ae

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Reviewed by: Principal, Health and Safety Team and Heads of Departments.

Approved By: Mr. Donald Weilson (Principal)

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