



Al Ain English Speaking School

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

1. PURPOSE

This policy ensures AAESS protects all students from harm, maltreatment, and exploitation, and promotes their wellbeing in accordance with ADEK regulations and UAE child protection laws. It defines clear responsibilities, procedures, and accountability for safeguarding practices across the school.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all AAESS staff, students, volunteers, contractors, and visitors. It covers all school activities, both on and off campus, including transport and digital environments.

3. DEFINITIONS

- Safeguarding: All actions taken to protect students from harm and promote their wellbeing.
- Maltreatment: Includes physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, neglect, exploitation, bullying, and cyberbullying.
- Duty of Care: The obligation to protect students while under school supervision.
- In Loco Parentis: Staff act in place of parents during school hours and activities.

4. SAFEGUARDING STRUCTURES

- Safeguarding Lead: A trained staff member responsible for overseeing safeguarding strategy and reporting concerns.
- Safeguarding Committee: A multidisciplinary team that monitors safeguarding implementation and reviews cases.
- Child Protection Coordinator (CPC): Point of contact for staff, students, and authorities regarding child protection concerns.

5. PREVENTION AND PROTECTION MEASURES

- Security Protocols: Controlled access to school premises, CCTV monitoring, trained security personnel.
- Staff Vetting and Training: Mandatory background checks and safeguarding training.

- Student Education: Age-appropriate lessons on personal safety, online safety, and reporting abuse.

6. REPORTING AND RESPONSE PROCEDURES

- All staff are mandated reporters of suspected abuse or maltreatment.
- Concerns must be reported to the CPC immediately.
- Confidential records are maintained and shared only with authorized personnel.
- Reports submitted to ADEK's Child Protection Unit (CPU) and other relevant authorities as required.

7. DIGITAL SAFEGUARDING

- Monitoring online platforms used for learning.
- Guidelines for safe digital communication.
- Protection against cyberbullying and inappropriate content.

8. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Principal: Ensures policy implementation and compliance.
- Safeguarding Lead and CPC: Manage safeguarding cases and liaise with ADEK.
- Staff: Identify and report concerns, support students.
- Parents: Cooperate with school safeguarding procedures.
- Students: Learn and follow safety guidelines, report concerns.

9. MONITORING AND REVIEW

- The policy is reviewed annually or upon updates to ADEK regulations.
- Safeguarding practices are audited and evaluated regularly.
- Feedback from students, staff, and parents informs improvements.