

Anti-Bullying Policy

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School Vision

Our vision is for all students to develop at Woodlem Park School as independent learners with self-belief and respect for others with a lifelong love for learning and a strong foundation for future success.

School Mission

At Woodlem Park School we value every student. We work together as a community to ensure that students develop well In all aspects of learning so that they are equipped to face the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century wherever they may be. To do this:

We provide the best possible learning opportunities in academic subjects, personal development, moral values and life skills

Staff members and students work together in a spirit of cooperation and mutual harmony.

Preamble

At Woodlem Park School, we uphold the principles of respect, tolerance, and safety for all members of our school community. Bullying in any form is unacceptable and goes against our core values of inclusivity and compassion.

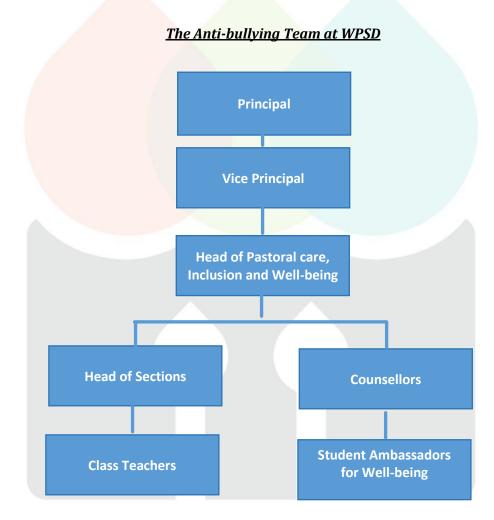
Aim, Scope & Significance

Our Anti-bullying policy aims to create a safe and secure environment where all students feel respected and valued. It outlines the scope of bullying behaviors and emphasizes the significance of preventing and addressing bullying incidents promptly and effectively.



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Bullying manifest in various forms, including Verbal Bullying, Social Bullying, Physical Bullying, Emotional Bullying, Cyber bullying, Sexual Bullying, Racist, Sexist, Religious Bullying or any kind of Intimidation. It can lead to feelings of loneliness, unhappiness, fear, and insecurity among victims, impacting their confidence and academic engagement.



Responding to Bullying

Inside the School:

The child protection team within the school responds to bullying incidents by establishing clear policies and procedures for reporting and addressing bullying behavior. They



conduct regular education and training sessions for students, staff, and parents to raise awareness about bullying prevention and the importance of reporting incidents. Increased supervision and monitoring within the school premises help deter bullying behavior, while thorough and impartial investigations are conducted to gather evidence and determine appropriate actions. Support services are offered to both victims and perpetrators, and disciplinary measures are implemented according to school policies and state laws. Follow-up and ongoing monitoring ensure that interventions are effective in creating a positive and safe school environment.

<u>On the School Bus:</u>

To address bullying on the school bus, the child protection team coordinates with transportation authorities to implement safety measures and increase supervision during bus rides. Students are educated about appropriate behavior on the bus and the importance of reporting bullying incidents. Multiple reporting channels are provided, including anonymous options if necessary. Thorough investigations are conducted for reported incidents, and appropriate interventions and consequences are implemented for perpetrators. Support services are available for both victims and perpetrators, and collaboration with external agencies is sought when needed. Follow-up and ongoing monitoring help ensure the effectiveness of interventions and promote a safer bus environment for all students.

At Home/outside school:

When bullying occurs at home, the child protection team works closely with parents and guardians to address the situation. They provide resources and support to families, including information about bullying prevention and intervention strategies. Students are encouraged to report incidents of bullying that occur outside of school, and the team ensures that appropriate actions are taken to address the behavior. Collaboration with external agencies, such as child protective services or law enforcement, may be necessary in cases of serious or ongoing bullying. Support services are offered to both victims and perpetrators, and follow-up and ongoing monitoring help ensure that interventions are effective in addressing bullying behavior in all settings.

• If necessary, the govt. agencies may be consulted or involved, such as the police or other local services.



- The Dubai Police Child Protection Dept. contact number: 800243
 Website: <u>www.dubaipolice.gov.ae</u> Al Ameen service Contact number: 800488
- 2. **Community Development Authority**, Child Protection Centre located in Al Barsha

Hotline 800 988 (The number to be used to report a concern in school) Mobile phone number 056 682011, Email <u>child@CDA.gov.ae</u>

3. Ministry of Interior – Child Protection Department

+971 (0) 23 333 999. E-mail <u>child.protection@adpolice.gov.ae</u>Hotline-

116111

4. Dubai Foundation for Women and Children

Free phone – 800111. Or 04 6060300

Email info@dfwac.ae (This is used for advice and referrals for families)

As a school, we will:

- Take all bullying problems seriously.
- Deal with each incident individually and assess the needs of each student separately.
- Regard all incidents as potentially serious and investigate them thoroughly.
- Ensure that bullies and victims are interviewed separately.
- Keep a written record of the incident, investigation and outcomes.
- Ensure that action is taken to prevent further incidents.
- A clear and precise account of the incident will be recorded which will include recording appropriate details regarding decisions and action taken.

Such action may include:

• Imposition of sanctions such as detention and removal of privileges.



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- Informing parents of both bully and bullied.
- Consult and involve Govt agencies when required.
- Provide support for both victim and bully.

Expectations from Stakeholders

Parents and all adults in school need to be vigilant about signs of bullying, including withdrawal, shyness, physical complaints, unexplained injuries, and changes in behaviour or mood. Prompt investigation and intervention are crucial to addressing bullying incidents.

We expect all stakeholders, including students, parents, teaching staff, and school management, to actively promote a culture of respect, tolerance, and kindness. Each stakeholder group has specific responsibilities outlined in this policy to prevent and address bullying effectively.

School Staff Responsibilities

The School and teaching staff are responsible for providing access to the anti-bullying policy, working within its guidelines, referring cases to authorities, providing interventions, and ensuring care and support for all students involved.

Parent Responsibilities

Parents are encouraged to promote values of tolerance and respect at home, report bullying incidents to the school, and encourage their children to seek help when needed.

Student Responsibilities

Students are expected to create a positive school environment, respect themselves and others, accept individual differences, stand up against bullying behavior, and support the school's anti-bullying policy.

Prevention of Bullying through Awareness Building



Educational Initiatives: Our school is committed to implementing comprehensive educational initiatives to combat bullying. These initiatives include integrating age-appropriate curriculum components that address topics such as empathy, conflict resolution, and respectful communication into our academic programs. Additionally, we organize regular workshops and seminars for students, parents, and faculty members to enhance awareness of bullying dynamics and strategies for prevention and intervention.

Assemblies and Role-plays: Regular assemblies and role-plays serve as powerful tools to reinforce our school's values of respect, kindness, and inclusivity. These events provide opportunities for students to engage in interactive discussions, skits, and role-plays that simulate real-life scenarios of bullying. By actively participating in these activities, students develop a deeper understanding of the consequences of bullying behavior and learn effective strategies for bystander intervention and seeking support.

Discussions and Peer Support Groups: We recognize the importance of fostering open dialogue and peer support networks to create a culture of empathy and acceptance within our school community. Through structured discussions facilitated by trained staff members, students have the opportunity to share their experiences, concerns, and perspectives related to bullying in a safe and supportive environment. Additionally, peer support groups offer students the chance to connect with peers who share similar experiences and provide mutual encouragement and guidance.

Monitoring and Reporting: Our school implements vigilant monitoring and reporting mechanisms to promptly identify and address incidents of bullying. Faculty members, administrators, and staff are trained to recognize signs of bullying and respond appropriately through confidential reporting channels. Additionally, we utilize anonymous reporting systems to encourage students to report concerns or observations of bullying without fear of retaliation. By consistently monitoring and addressing instances of bullying, we demonstrate our unwavering commitment to maintaining a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students.

<u>Cultivating a Culture of Respect and Kindness</u>: At the heart of our anti-bullying efforts lies the cultivation of a culture characterized by respect, kindness, and empathy. Through ongoing reinforcement of positive behaviors and values, such as empathy, compassion,



and inclusivity, we strive to create a school environment where bullying is not tolerated, and every individual feels valued and supported. Our school community embraces

diversity and celebrates the unique contributions of each member, fostering a sense of belonging and connectedness that transcends differences.

Monitoring and Review

The principal along with the designated well-being officers monitors the effectiveness of this policy regularly, reports on its effectiveness, and makes recommendations for improvements. The school maintains records of bullying incidents and reviews the policy annually.

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