



# M.E.S. INDIAN SCHOOL

## CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

### 1. Purpose:

To protect children from any kind of abuse and support them if any incident reported within the campus, outside the school or at home.

### 2. Aims of Policy:

- To ensure safe recruitment in checking the suitability of staff to work with children.
- To establish a safe environment in which children feel secure, learn, are encouraged to talk and are listened to.
- To increase awareness about child protection issues and educating children with required information and self-defence skills.
- To support students who have been abused.
- To ensure that all staff are aware of the different forms of abuse and the correct procedures to follow if abuse is suspected.

### 3. Policies:

- 3.1. Complete background check should be made before appointing any staff.
- 3.2. Visitors register to be completed before permitting the visitors inside the campus. Any unauthorised entry should be restricted at the school gate.
- 3.3. Every child should be protected from all abuses, injury, etc.
- 3.4. Safety guidelines and policy shall be followed to ensure safety of the students.
- 3.5. Diagnosing abuse is extremely difficult but there are a number of indicators that may alert staff and these may include:
  - Repeated minor injuries, e.g. bruises or cuts
  - Being dirty, smelly, poorly clothed or apparently underfed
  - Having lingering illnesses that are apparently unattended
  - Unexplained changes in behaviour
  - Deterioration in School work
  - Aggressive behaviour
  - Severe tantrums
  - Depression or withdrawal
  - Sexually explicit behaviour or showing inappropriate awareness
  - Reluctance to go home
  - Apparent reluctance to trust adults
  - Reversion to immature behaviour for age.
  - Inappropriate attention seeking behaviour
  - Sudden weight loss or gain
  - Sign of self-harming
- 3.6. Teachers shall carefully monitor the students to help students who are suffering from any kind of abuse.

#### Types of abuse

- 3.6.1. Neglect : Child neglected at home or at school will carry a sense of worthlessness that is hard to bear.

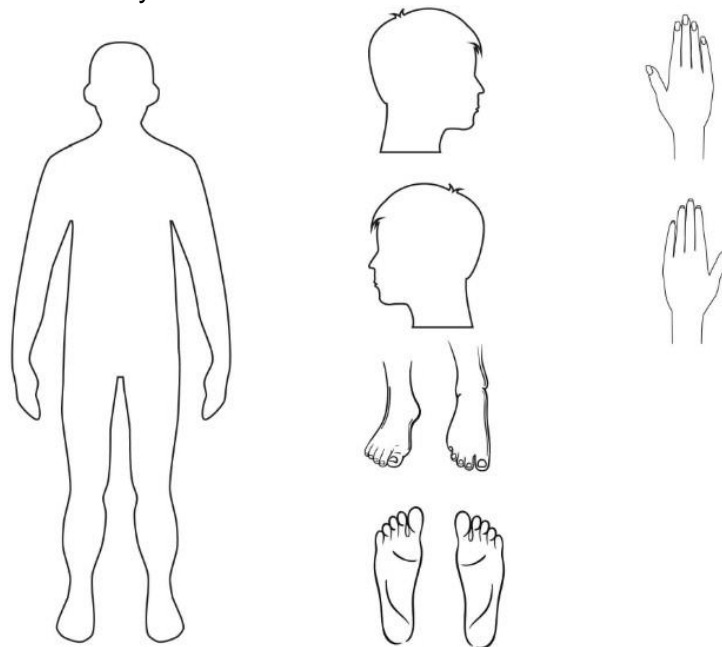


## M.E.S. INDIAN SCHOOL

- 3.6.2. Emotional Abuse : The child is often a scapegoat when things go wrong at home and suffers taunting or derision, instilling a sense that he/she can never do anything right.
- 3.6.3. Sexual Abuse : The complexities of this form of abuse are hard to grasp but usually entail the child keeping intolerable secrets, often under threat. The child may not be aware that what is happening to them is abnormal, but the abnormality of his/her behaviour at School may be an indicator of abuse.
- 3.6.4. Physical Abuse : The physically abused child lives with violence and often accepts this as normality. Physically abused children often react defensively to any swift movement made by an adult and may even strike out.

### 3.7. Action by teachers:

- 3.7.1. Teachers shall report any abnormal behaviour of the children to the students' counsellor for further assistance.
- 3.7.2. Student counsellor shall follow the counselling procedure as applicable to identify the actual problem and assist the child to overcome any incident affecting their normal life.
- 3.7.3. Picture shall be used as shown below to identify the affected body part in a physical abuse to take necessary action.



- 3.7.4. Students counsellor shall inform the parents and also discuss the matter in details to protect the child from further mental trauma.
- 3.7.5. Any act of violence by parents are to be referred to the Principal and other governing authorities in Qatar for professional assistance and judicial interference as applicable.
- 3.7.6. Strict confidentiality should be maintained by the counselling department and teacher concerned.