

## United Private School Student Protection Policy

### 1. Introduction

United Private School is committed to safeguarding the welfare of all students and ensuring their right to a safe and nurturing environment. This policy outlines the school's commitment to child protection, adhering to the UAE regulations and the principles of the Federal Law No. 3 of 2016 concerning child rights, commonly known as the Wadeema's Law.

### 2. Legal Framework

This Child Protection Policy is in accordance with the following UAE laws and regulations:

- **Federal Law No. 3 of 2016 (Wadeema's Law):** Protecting the rights of children in the UAE.
- **UAE Penal Code (Federal Law No. 3 of 1987):** Relevant sections related to child protection.

### 3. Policy Objectives

- **3.1. Safeguarding Children's Rights:** To ensure that all students at United Private School are protected from abuse, neglect, exploitation, and violence.
- **3.2. Creating a Safe Environment:** To establish a secure and supportive school environment where children feel safe and respected.
- **3.3. Awareness and Training:** To educate staff, students, and parents on child protection issues and responsibilities under the Wadeema's Law and other relevant UAE regulations.
- **3.4. Reporting and Response:** To provide clear procedures for reporting and responding to concerns of child abuse or neglect.

### 4. Scope of the Policy

This policy applies to:

- All students enrolled at United Private School.
- All staff members, including teachers, administrators, support staff, and volunteers.
- All parents, guardians, and visitors to the school.

### 5. Definitions

- **Child:** Any person under the age of 18 years, as defined by the Wadeema's Law.
- **Child Abuse:** Any form of physical, emotional, sexual abuse, or neglect inflicted upon a child.
- **Neglect:** Failure to provide for a child's basic needs, including food, clothing, shelter, education, and medical care.

## **6. Roles and Responsibilities**

### **6.1. School Administration:**

- Ensure the implementation and enforcement of this Child Protection Policy.
- Designate a Child Protection Officer (CPO) responsible for handling all child protection issues.
- Ensure that all staff members undergo child protection training.

### **6.2. Child Protection Officer (CPO):**

- Act as the main point of contact for child protection concerns within the school.
- Maintain records of all child protection concerns and actions taken.
- Liaise with local authorities and child protection services as required.

### **6.3. Staff Members:**

- Recognize signs of potential abuse or neglect and report concerns immediately to the CPO.
- Maintain a professional and appropriate relationship with students.
- Participate in ongoing child protection training.

### **6.4. Parents and Guardians:**

- Understand and comply with the school's Child Protection Policy.
- Report any concerns regarding their child's safety to the school.

## **7. Prevention and Education**

### **7.1. Curriculum Integration:**

- Incorporate child protection awareness into the school curriculum, focusing on personal safety, respecting others, and understanding rights under the Wadeema's Law.

### **7.2. Staff Training:**

- Provide mandatory child protection training for all staff members upon hiring and regular refresher courses.
- Ensure that staff are aware of the signs of abuse and neglect and the procedures for reporting concerns.

### **7.3. Parent and Student Awareness:**

- Conduct workshops and informational sessions for parents and students to raise awareness about child protection issues.
- Distribute materials that outline the rights of children as per the Wadeema's Law and how to report concerns.

## **8. Reporting Procedures**

### **8.1. Internal Reporting:**

- Any staff member who suspects or knows of any child abuse or neglect must report it immediately to the CPO.
- The CPO will document the concern and take appropriate action, which may include further investigation or contacting local authorities.

### **8.2. External Reporting:**

- In cases where there is a serious risk to the child's safety, the CPO must report the incident to the UAE's Ministry of Interior Child Protection Centre (CPC) or other relevant authorities.
- Ensure confidentiality and sensitivity in all reporting procedures.

### **8.3. Response and Follow-Up:**

- The school will take immediate and appropriate steps to protect the child and address the situation.
- Provide support and counseling to the child involved, and follow up with the family as necessary.

## **9. Confidentiality**

All reports and records related to child protection concerns will be treated with the utmost confidentiality. Information will only be shared with relevant authorities and individuals who need to know to protect the child.

## **10. Monitoring and Review**

- The Child Protection Policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains effective and up-to-date with current UAE laws and best practices.
- Feedback from staff, parents, and students will be considered in policy reviews.