

# Washington International School in Taichung

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### **Campus Bullying Prevention and Response Statement**

#### Introduction:

WIST is dedicated to cultivating a campus environment that prioritizes safety and inclusivity for everyone within our community, comprising teachers, non-teaching staff, and students alike. In line with this dedication, we have developed a comprehensive policy aimed at the prevention and resolution of school bullying incidents. This policy delineates the duties and obligations of different parties involved, establishes reporting procedures, and introduces training initiatives designed to foster a welcoming campus atmosphere while proactively preventing instances of school bullying.

Our commitment to creating a safe and inclusive campus is not only in alignment with our values but also adheres to the provisions of the <u>Educational Fundamental Act of the Republic of China</u>, <u>Protection of Children and Youth Welfare and Rights Act</u>, the MOE's Guidelines on the Prevention of Campus Bullying, and guidelines issued by the Education Administration of the Ministry of Education.

#### Purpose:

To promote a friendly campus and prevent school bullying, this policy aims to:

- 1. Clearly define the rights and responsibilities of teachers, non-teaching staff members, and students.
- 2. Establish procedures for handling school bullying incidents effectively.
- 3. Create a "Response Team for Prevention of School Bullying" comprising representatives from different roles within our institution to oversee prevention, investigation, and counseling related to school bullying incidents.
- 4. Enhance education on law, morality, human rights, life skills, gender equality, and information ethics to lay the foundation for bullying prevention.
- 5. Conduct regular in-service training activities for all staff members to equip them with the necessary knowledge and skills to prevent and respond to school bullying.
- 6. Educate students, parents, teachers, non-teaching staff members about school bullying prevention and reporting procedures.
- 7. Promote the use of restorative justice strategies to reduce conflicts and restore relationships in cases of bullving.
- 8. Encourage parental involvement in anti-bullying measures and initiatives.
- 9. Strengthen awareness among all stakeholders regarding their rights, obligations, and responsibilities in school bullying prevention.
- 10. Foster positive values of mutual respect, empathy, and cooperation among students, staff, and parents.
- 11. Provide assistance and support to both victims and individuals displaying bullying behaviors.
- 12. Implement positive guidance and discipline methods to prevent bullying incidents.

### **Rights and Responsibilities**

#### All Staff Members

#### Rights:

- 1. Teachers have the right to a safe and respectful working environment.
- 2. They have the right to receive training and support to prevent and respond to school bullying incidents effectively.
- 3. Teachers have the right to report suspected bullying incidents without fear of retaliation.
- 4. Teachers have the right to participate in the investigation and handling of bullying incidents as required by MOE guidelines.

### Responsibilities:

- 1. Teachers are responsible for promoting a positive and inclusive school environment.
- 2. They should actively participate in training related to bullying prevention and resolution.
- 3. Teachers must report any suspected bullying incidents promptly to the appropriate authorities.
- 4. They are responsible for cooperating with investigations and providing necessary information.
- 5. Teachers should avoid engaging in any behavior that may contribute to or perpetuate bullying incidents.
- 6. They are expected to provide guidance and support to students in building positive relationships.

#### Students:

### Rights:

- 1. Students have the right to a safe and respectful learning environment free from bullying.
- 2. They have the right to report bullying incidents without fear of retaliation.
- 3. Students have the right to receive support and counseling if they are victims of bullying.

#### Responsibilities:

- 1. Students are responsible for treating others with respect and kindness, both on and off-campus.
- 2. They must report any bullying incidents they witness or experience promptly to the appropriate authorities.
- 3. Students should cooperate with investigations and provide necessary information.
- 4. They are encouraged to participate in educational programs that promote positive behavior and conflict resolution.
- 5. Students should refrain from engaging in any bullying behaviors.

### **Reporting Duties:**

#### All Staff Members

When any teacher, non-teaching staff member, or janitor becomes aware of a suspected school bullying incident, they have a duty to immediately notify the Student Counseling Section Chief in accordance with the school's regulations on school bullying prevention.

#### Students:

Students have a duty to report any bullying incidents they witness or experience promptly to the appropriate authorities.

#### **Reporting Procedures:**

### Initial Reporting:

- 1. Teachers, non-teaching staff members, and janitors must report suspected bullying incidents to the Student Counseling Section Chief.
- 2. The Section Chief is responsible for reporting to the Education Bureau of Taichung City Government within 24 hours.
- 3. Depending on the circumstances, the reporting may also be submitted to the social affairs agency of Taichung City Government in accordance with relevant provisions of the Protection of Children and Youth Welfare and Rights Act,

### Confidentiality:

After reporting, unless it is necessary for investigation, based on public interest considerations or otherwise stipulated by laws and regulations, the names and other information that may lead to the identification of the perpetrator, the bullied person, the complainant, witnesses, or assisting investigators shall be kept confidential.

## Reapplication for Investigation:

- 1. If an applicant or complainant is not satisfied with the initial investigation results, they have the right to submit a written reapplication within 20 days from the receipt date of the written notice of the initial investigation results.
- 2. The reapplication shall be reviewed by a review team composed of relevant experts, scholars, legal professionals, or practitioners in the field of prevention of school bullying.
- 3. The review team shall make a decision with grounds expressly stated within 30 days.

#### Handling by the School

- 1. The school shall complete the investigation within two (2) months from the next day following the date the school accepted the application for investigation, the complainant's reporting, or the transfer of a suspected school bullying incident.
- 2. After completing the investigation, the school shall transfer the discussion results to the appropriate authorities for handling.

These reporting duties and procedures are designed to ensure that suspected school bullying incidents are promptly reported, thoroughly investigated, and handled in accordance with relevant regulations and guidelines. Confidentiality and the option to reapply for investigation are also provided to protect the rights and interests of all parties involved.

#### **Translation Disclaimer:**

The translation of this document is provided for informational purposes only. While we strive to ensure accuracy, translations may not be perfect and can vary based on context, language nuances, and other factors. Please note that the original document or text always takes precedence over this translation. While we have made every effort to provide an accurate translation, variations in language, context, and interpretation may occur. We do not accept responsibility for any errors, omissions, or misinterpretations that may occur in the translation.

#### **Al Assistance Disclosure Statement**

Artificial intelligence (AI) played a role in assisting with the creation and drafting of this document, but it underwent extensive scrutiny and refinement by human experts to guarantee its accuracy, comprehensiveness, and alignment with our school's objectives and principles.

The use of AI technology is intended to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of our documentation development process. However, it is essential to emphasize that the final content and decisions reflect the collective input, expertise, and judgment of our team.