

SIS Safeguarding Policy

2026-2027

Summit International School Vision and Mission

Vision: *To be a school that provides every student individualized learning, opportunities for growth, and the confidence and creativity to climb higher every day.*

Mission: *To create a happy and safe environment that cultivates individualized learning paths through active learning and reflective teaching.*

Safeguarding Team Vision and Mission:

Vision: *To build a safe and supportive community where every student feels confident that their welfare and dignity are actively protected.*

Mission: *To proactively protect and promote the welfare of individuals by maintaining robust safety policies, listening to concerns without judgment, and collaborating seamlessly with families and local authorities.*

ADEK Safeguarding Policy

[https://www.adek.gov.ae/-/media/Project/TAMM/ADEK/Policies/School-Policies/Health-safety-andwellbeing/ADEK S Safeguarding-Policy EN v12.pdf](https://www.adek.gov.ae/-/media/Project/TAMM/ADEK/Policies/School-Policies/Health-safety-andwellbeing/ADEK_S_Safeguarding-Policy_EN_v12.pdf)

This policy is read in line with the ADEK Student Behavior Policy

Summit School Safeguarding Policy 2026-2027

1. Introduction

The school fully recognizes its contribution to safeguarding under UAE Federal Law No. 3 of 2016 concerning children's rights, also known as 'Wadeema's Law,' which protects children against all forms of negligence, exploitation, and **physical** and psychological abuse. All staff are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, thereby protecting them from such abuse. This policy exists to protect children of all ages from the four main kinds of abuse.

2. What is Abuse?

Abuse is a form of maltreatment of a child, either by inflicting harm or by failing to prevent harm. Harm can include non-physical ill-treatment, as well as the impact of witnessing the maltreatment of others. These harms are particularly relevant, for example, to the impact on children of all forms of domestic abuse. Abuse can take place wholly online, or technology may be used to facilitate offline abuse. Children may be abused by adults or by other children.

Physical Abuse:

Physical abuse may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating, or otherwise causing physical harm to the child. Fictitious illness by proxy (also known as Munchausen syndrome by proxy) may also be considered physical abuse.

Emotional Abuse:

This is the persistent emotional ill-treatment of a child that causes severe and lasting adverse effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve telling children that they are worthless, unloved, or inadequate, or that they are valued only for meeting another person's needs. Emotional abuse may include age-inappropriate or developmentally inappropriate expectations imposed on children. It may involve causing children to feel frightened or in danger or exploiting or corrupting them.

Sexual Abuse:

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. These activities may involve physical contact, including penetrative or non-penetrative acts. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at or producing pornographic material, watching sexual activities, or encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways.

Neglect:

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely resulting in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect may involve failing to provide adequate food, shelter, or clothing, failing to protect the child from physical harm or danger, or failing to ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment. It may also include neglecting or failing to respond to a child's basic emotional needs.

3. Data Confidentiality

All reports and case data are strictly confidential. The identities of the child involved, the alleged perpetrator, and the person reporting the case must be kept confidential.

Information may only be shared with authorized individuals from the ADEK Division in charge of child protection, the Ministry of Interior–Child Protection Center, and Social Support Center staff. School staff are prohibited from discussing cases with unauthorized individuals, the media, or any third party, except as required by investigative or judicial authorities.

4. Training

The Child Protection Coordinator received thorough training in child protection by the National Academy for Childhood Development.

The Child Protection Coordinator shall provide child protection training for school staff, volunteers, student teachers, and parents at the beginning of each academic year. This is to ensure our students are protected, and everyone in the school is following safeguarding guidelines.

5. Failure to Comply

Failure to comply with this policy will result in legal and administrative consequences as stipulated by ADEK regulations, UAE Federal Law No. 3 of 2016 on Child Rights, UAE Federal Law No. 3 of 1987 (the Penal Code), and other applicable laws.

6. Roles and Responsibilities

The Child Protection Coordinator will:

- Comply with this policy and ensure that the school publishes a Child Protection Policy that meets all the requirements stated herein.
- Ensure procedures are in place to prevent situations that could lead to abuse or neglect and that these procedures are understood by all school staff and leaders.
- Ensure the supervision of students at all times while they are in the school's care.

- Prioritize the protection of students and take immediate action when abuse or neglect is suspected.
- Ensure students can safely report concerns about abuse or neglect without fear of retribution.
- Ensure staff can report any concerns about a student's potential exposure to abuse or neglect without fear of retribution.
- Solicit feedback from students and parents regarding safety and protection within the school.
- Immediately report any potential abuse or neglect of students as outlined in this policy.
- Ensure all staff and administrators attend and participate fully in mandated student protection training.
- Conduct orientation sessions for parents/guardians at the start of each school year to promote awareness of this policy and inform them of their roles, responsibilities, and rights.
- Maintain confidentiality of students' records.

All School Staff Will:

- Report suspected abuse or neglect immediately upon discovery by using this [Google Form](#), or calling a [child protection team member](#) if the child is in immediate danger.
- Supervise students at all times while they are in the school's care.
- Understand and follow this policy when addressing suspected or alleged cases of abuse or neglect.
- Attend and actively participate in student protection training.

Parents/Legal Guardians Will:

- Cooperate with school administration and staff, respond to all inquiries regarding student behavior and academic performance, and follow school guidance.
- Attend all scheduled parent meetings.
- Communicate any concerns or observations about their child's behavior to school administration or the appropriate school staff.

References

UAE Federal Law No.3 of 2016 on Child Rights

ADEK Safeguarding Policy

Abu Dhabi Early Childhood Authority