APPLE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-26

Cultivating better individuals for a better society

LEAMS
EDUCATION

THE APPLE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, DUBAI

Apple International School believes in educating the whole child. We envision developing a healthy school culture where pupils respect others and treat them with compassion and tolerance.

This anti-bullying policy intends to support the school's objectives to provide a safe learning environment for all members of the AIS community, allowing development and growth, while promoting the high standards of the school in both behavior and education. Apple International School believes that every student has the right to an educational environment that is free of harassment, bullying, and intimidation. The policy applies to the entire school, from FS to Grade 12.

The Policy is based on the principle of encouraging positive behavior, resilience and promoting mindfulness among our pupils. We want our students to nourish and nurture the core values of our school which are:

- Resilience

- Excellence

- Empathy

- Independence

- Global mindedness

We intend to help our children grow not only as successful individuals but also as compassionate human beings who employ the benefit mindset as a way of living. For this, we consider our parent community as equal partners in achieving this goal.

Aim

● All teaching and non-teaching staff should know what the school policy is on bullying and follow it when bullying is reported.

● All students and parents should know what the school policy is on bullying, and what they should do if bullying arises.

● As a school, we take bullying seriously. Students and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.

● AIS has a "zero tolerance" for Bullying.

● Confidentiality will be maintained where possible.

What is considered 'Bullying' at AIS?

Bullying is "the intentional hurting of one person by another, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. It is usually repetitive or persistent, although some one-off attacks can have a continuing harmful effect on the victim."

Bullying can be:

• Emotional – being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting

• Physical – pushing, kicking, hitting, punching, or any use of violence

• Verbal – name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumors, teasing

• Racist – taunts, graffiti, gestures

• Gender – unwanted physical contact or abusive comments based on gender

• Cyber – all areas of the internet such as email misuse, mobile threats by text/calls, misuse of associated technology such as cameras.

Bullying of any kind is unacceptable. If bullying does occur, Students should report the incident to a member of staff who will deal with it promptly and effectively.

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Strategies to prevent Bullying

- To identify bullying behavior at the early stages and work towards behavior modification before the problem becomes more serious.

- To have a school-wide program regarding anti-bullying, that informs and educates students, staff, and parents about the issues related to bullying.

- To foster the values in which AIS believes

- To include within the curriculum, opportunities to discuss and consider bullying and other forms of anti-social behavior.

- To help students through advice and counseling, to make the right choices and not succumb to peer pressure and to engage a range of strategies that challenge bullying behavior

- To listen to all parties involved in incidents and always take allegations from victims seriously.

- To reassure students that the school will do all in its power to protect and support all parties involved while the issues are being resolved.

Reporting Bullying Behavior

There will be opportunities for pupils to report their concerns remotely or anonymously via:

- The school's anti-bullying email address – stopbullying@apple.sch.ae

- The centrally located Concerns Box

- Reporting to any of the team members.

- Investigation to be done by the team.

- Writing incident reports.

PREVENTION

AIS will prevent bullying by:

● Raising awareness of what bullying is

● Promoting pro-social behavior.

● Promoting strategies to protect and support the targets

● Dealing effectively with incidents

● Regularly review the Anti-Bullying Policy

● Provide information and training for all members of staff to prevent bullying, manage incidents and create

and maintain a culture of mutual respect, free from bullying behavior.

Roles and Responsibilities

The role of pupils:

• Pupils are expected to treat others fairly and with respect.

• Pupils are encouraged to tell anybody they trust if they are being bullied, and if the bullying

continues, they must continue to let people know.

• Pupils must report any incidents that they witness of bullying, even if they observe as a

bystanders.

• Pupils are encouraged to stand up assertively and safely to a bully and are provided with a range of

strategies on how to do this, whether they are being bullied or are a bystander.

The role of parents and families:

• Parents should always set a positive example for all pupils.

• Parents who are concerned that their child might be being bullied, or who suspect that their child may be the perpetrator of bullying, should contact the school where appropriate action will be taken and the situation monitored. Parents will be informed of the outcome of an investigation and their support may be necessary.

• Parents have a responsibility to support the school's Anti-Bullying Policy, actively encouraging their children to be positive members of the school.

The role of the Principal:

• It is the responsibility of the principal to implement the school anti-bullying strategy and to ensure that all staff (both teaching and non-teaching) are aware of the school policy and know how to deal with incidents of bullying.

• The principal ensures that all children know that bullying is wrong and that it is unacceptable behavior in this school. Anti-bullying events and promotions throughout the year will highlight and support why this behavior is wrong.

• The principal ensures that all staff receives sufficient training to be equipped to deal with all incidents of bullying.

• The principal sets the school climate of mutual support and praise for success to reduce the likelihood of bullying. When pupils feel they are important and belong to a friendly and welcoming school, bullying is far less likely to be part of their behavior.

- Scheduled meetings for follow-up.

- Sending Survey links to students at the end of each term

- Updating the anti-bullying policy annually.

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Dr Jinto Sebastian

Principal

The Apple International School, Dubai

Reviewed Annually