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POCSO COMMITTEE

PREVENTION OF CHILDREN FROM SEXUAL OFFENCE COMMITTEE(POCSO)

To safeguard the interests of the learners, PICT Model School set up the POCSO Committee (set up under the provisions of Prevention of Children from Sexual Offence Act 2012) on 22nd August 2007. The Committee works towards safeguarding the learners from the challenges they face in their formative years at school. The Committee takes up age-appropriate initiatives to create awareness about sexual exploitation and to ensure that all learners are aware of their rights and responsibilities towards themselves. Training sessions are conducted for the faculty and staff to recognize and report issues of abuse and neglect. Complaint Boxes are placed strategically and checked regularly by the Committee members to address the complaints if any.

Through its awareness campaigns and programs, the Committee strives to ensure that all learners are treated with dignity and respect at all times. In a series of Awareness programs and Special School assemblies conducted in the School throughout the year, learner participation is encouraged. Age-appropriate videos are shown and self-defense sessions are also conducted as a part of the Awareness programs.

The POCSO committee comprises of the following members:

S. No.	Name of Member	Designation		Contact Number	Signature
1	Dr. Mrunali Macwan	Principal	Chairperson	9099066407	A51 ¥
2	Tsuiltrimnyima	Councellor	Member	8894452994	
3	Nikita Sharma	Vice Principal	Co-ordinator of commitee	9714564597	pullet -
4	Suman Navlani	TGT	Member	8849337258	Burne
5	Monu Patel	PRT	Member	7266982215	Datil
6	Gilbert Cutinha	PTE	Member	9998004560	lywin

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DISCOVERY SCHOOLS

What is a Child Protection Policy?

A Child Protection Policy is a statement of intent that demonstrates the commitment to
Safeguarding children from harm and makes clear to all in an Institution and who come into contact with it what is required in relation to the protection of children, and that child abuse in any form is unacceptable.

Though the main purpose of the policy is to protect children from all forms of harm and create an enabling environment, it is also a tool to enhance the commitment of the organization to provide a child-friendly environment through sensitizing persons associated and enforcing this policy.

What is Child Abuse?

Child abuse means any form of maltreatment inflicted on a child including physical abuse, sexual abuse and emotional abuse.

Indicators of Abuse:

Physical & Sexual Abuse

- Unexplained burns, cuts, bruises, or welts in the shape of an object
- Bite marks
- Anti social, violent, and/or abrasive behavior
- Problems in school
- Fear of adults
- · Drug or alcohol abuse
- Self-destructive or suicidal behavior
- Depression or poor self-image

Emotional Abuse

- Nightmares and bedwetting
- Drastic changes in appetite
- Over compliance or excessive aggression
- Fear of a particular person
- Withdrawal, secretiveness, or depression
- Suicidal behavior
- Eating disorders

Article 23

Parties recognize that a mentally or physically disabled child should enjoy a full and decent life, in conditions that ensure dignity, promote self-reliance and facilitate the child's active participation in the community.



Article 28

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Parties shall take all appropriate measures to ensure that school discipline is administered in a manner consistent with the child's human dignity and in conformity with the present Convention.

Article 34

Parties undertake to protect the child from all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.

- (a) The inducement or coercion of a child to engage in any unlawful sexual activity;
- (b) The exploitative use of children in prostitution or other unlawful sexual practices;
- (c) The exploitative use of children in pornographic performances and materials.

Legal framework for Child Protection in India/Delhi

- A. The Constitution of India
- B. The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012
- C. The Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2000 and The Delhi Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Rules, 2009
 - D. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009

Appropriate Standards of Behaviour for Staff & Employees Adults should:

- i. Provide an enabling environment for children's personal, physical, social, emotional, moral, and intellectual development.
 - ii. Encourage and respect other employee's and children's voices and views.
- iii. Be inclusive and involve all children without selection or exclusion on the basis of gender, disability, ethnicity, religion or any other status.
- iv. Be aware of the potential for peer abuse (eg: children bullying, discriminating against, victimizing or abusing children).
- v. Develop special measures/supervision to protect younger and especially vulnerable children from peer and adult abuse.
- vi. Be aware of high-risk peer situations (eg: unsupervised mixing of older and younger children and the possibility of discrimination against minors).
 - vii. Avoid placing oneself in a compromising or vulnerable situation when meeting with children.
 - viii. Meet with a child in a public, central location whenever possible.
- ix. Immediately report the circumstances of any situation which occurs which may be subject to misinterpretation.
- x. Make oneself aware and educated on the laws, rules, and guidelines related to child protection as amended from time to time.

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Complaint Mechanism:

i. Children in institutional care or their representatives can make individual requests or complaints to the director/management of the institution.

ii. In case of complaints against professional staff such as nurses or teachers, among others, working with and for children, a complaint can be made to the Monitoring Committee.

iii. The Committee will appoint a person responsible for attending to all complaints brought before it in a time-bound and confidential manner.

Disciplinary Action

The disciplinary action will be commensurate with the nature of the violation (students)

- Warning
- Written apology
- Bond of good behaviour
- Debarring entry into hostel /campus Suspension for a specific period of time Withholding results
- Debarring from exams
- Debarring from contesting elections
- Debarring from holding leadership posts or membership of Committees
- Expulsion
- Denial of admission
- Any other relevant mechanism

