

Proactive measures to prevent child sexual abuse

- We conduct background check & police verification for all staff members including contract employees.
- All employees to sign a copy of the terms and conditions related to child protection after they join the school. They will be provided with ID cards.
- Clear boundaries need to be defined in interaction between staff and child. (e.g.:- No staff shall take the child to the bathroom alone without being accompanied by a helper, no teacher will lock the classrooms from inside).
- Installation of CCTVs in common places and in school premises are done and ensure that their feed is monitored.
- Lay down policies and safe boundaries around photographing children, using photographs of children, Internet and technology usage within the school premises.
- Arrangement for regular sessions on personal safety with all children (this includes talking about body parts, online safety, and protection from abuse).
- Orientation is conducted for all staff members on detecting the warning signs of sexual abuse among children.
- Training is given for all staff members and support staff on child protection norms and child sexual abuse prevention.
- Engage in active dialogue with parents and help ensure that parents are aware of the issues faced by children.
- We have a full time counselor or a visiting counselor to the school regularly.
- Thorough monitoring of activities of all teachers, visiting faculty and strangers by their immediate supervisor; an internal vigilance committee may be constituted.
- Ensure children leave school only with parents or authorized personnel.
- According to Sections 19(I) and 21 of the POCSO Act, 2012, Teachers, Management and all employees of institutions need to be made aware about the provisions of the Act, some of which cast a duty on them to report instance of child abuse.

- In- house induction sessions should be held in Schools

It is held for all teachers to include a specific module on gender sensitization. Sexual offences committed by the persons who are in the ownership, management of staff of education institutions and persons in positions of Trust and Authority over children are liable for higher punishment as per the provisions of the Act.

- School/Classroom Environment

Our School ensures and promotes a harmonious school/classroom environment and inclusiveness.

- Provision for guidance and counseling facilities in schools

Teachers in general are trained to attend to adolescent (gender) related issues, conduct of adolescent education programme and special activities that promote gender equality and sensitivity.

- Programme for empowerment of girls

Camps on sensitization of girls on health and sanitation issues, karate/ self defensetraining of girl students will be conducted at regular intervals. Programme like folk dance, nukkad natak, poster competitions, quiz, debate, exhibition can also be conducted to foster gender equality.

- Constitution of School Complaints Committee

There is a committee consisting of Principal/Vice- Principal, one male teacher, one female teacher, one female student, one male student and one non-teaching staff member must be set up to serve as complaints and Redressal body. An improved response system and alert administrative machinery is required to take immediate action on reported cases of misbehavior.

- Use of Complaint / Suggestion box

It is provided in our school so that students can make written complaints. Any complaint of sexual abuse, whether received through the drop box or otherwise needs to be acted upon immediately.

- Monitoring and Identification of Children

Close monitoring of academic performance and psychological behavior particularly in cases of sudden decline in performance, lack of interest, depression and aloofness should be noticed to give proper counseling to the children.

- Toll Free number and child helpline

It is provided and made known and displayed on notice board along with names of teachers designated to handle such cases. Centralized Child helpline number 1098 is popularized and displayed at prominent places in the schools.

- Teaching Children to Identify Good touch and Bad Touch

There are orientation programme specifically conducted to teach the child the basic concepts of good touches, bad touches and confusing touches.