

Dresden International School - Child-on-Child Abuse Policy Summary

1. Purpose of the Policy:

The Child-on-Child Abuse Policy at Dresden International School is designed to ensure the safety and well-being of all members of the school community. It emphasizes the commitment to fostering a secure, inclusive, and caring environment, aligned with the school's philosophy, IB standards, and relevant policies. Our goals are to create a culture that helps to prevent child-on-child abuse and also to provide effective procedures for responding to and managing incidents.

2. Important Definitions:

The policy provides clear definitions for key terms, including Child-on-Child Abuse, Bullying, Age of Consent, Sharing Nudes/Sexting, Upskirting, Hazing/Initiation, Discrimination and others. These definitions help us to establish a common understanding of the types of behaviors covered by the policy, supporting a comprehensive and consistent approach.

3. Process for Receiving and Investigating a Disclosure:

The policy outlines our processes for identifying and responding to child-on-child abuse. This includes strategies for prevention, such as fostering a culture of care, awareness programs and active supervision. Additionally, it provides guidance for recognizing signs of abuse and the responsibilities of different stakeholders, including students, teachers, and parents.

4. Protocols and Practices:

The policy emphasizes proactive measures, such as creating open communication channels, the integration of child protection lessons in the curriculum, and regular review of network settings. Identification of abuse involves understanding the nature of various categories, including physical, emotional, sexual, bullying, child exploitation, and recognizing the signs that a child may be suffering. The policy provides a structured step-by-step response to incidents and the steps include informing designated safeguarding leads, gathering information, assessing risk levels, and informing parents.

5. Action Plan and Follow-Up:

In the event of child-on-child abuse, the steps taken include the implementation of an action plan. Action plans will vary according to the specific details of each case and may include counseling, restorative conversations and collaborating with external organizations if necessary. The policy emphasizes the importance of confidentiality, privacy, and ongoing support for both the victim and the perpetrator.

6. Continuous Improvement and Prevention:

The policy supports continuous improvement of school procedures by promoting the regular review of incidents to help us identify patterns, and adjust strategies accordingly. It highlights the role of the school community, including students, teachers, and parents, in creating a safe and caring environment. The commitment to contextual safeguarding acknowledges the influence of external factors on child safety.

In summary, Dresden International School's Child-on-Child Abuse Policy aims to be a comprehensive framework focused on prevention, clear definitions, and a systematic response to incidents. It prioritizes the safety, well-being, and inclusivity of all community members, aligning with the school's values and educational philosophy.