ليـــوا للتعليم
Liwa Education

مدرســـة لـــيـــوا الـــدولـــيـــة
Liwa International School
الـقـطـارة Al Qattara

2027-2026

LE Safeguarding Policy - LISQ AY 26/27

AUGUST 2026

Effective Date: Aug 2026
Review Date: Yearly

LE SAFEGUARDING POLICY - LISQ AY 26/27

Introduction

The commitment to the highest standards of safeguarding and student protection is paramount in any educational setting. LISQ shall promote safe practices and protect students from harm, maltreatment, and exploitation to ensure the development and growth of every student, as is their right as per Federal Law No. (3) of 2016 Concerning Child Rights. This policy sets out the priorities and processes for safeguarding and promoting the welfare and security of students and lists procedures to adhere to when dealing with allegations of abuse and maltreatment.

Additionally, particular care is given to identifying and supporting Students of Determination to ensure equitable access to protection and educational support.

Purpose: The purpose of this safeguarding policy is to:

- Set out ADEK's requirements in relation to safeguarding and the promotion of student welfare.
- Define a clear line of accountability within LISQ to ensure safeguarding protocols are fully implemented.
- Define procedures for identifying and reporting cases of student maltreatment.
- Outline the security requirements for LISQ to ensure effective supervision and duties of security guards, school visiting, and departure procedures, and an established system for managing security breaches.
- Set out requirements as per ADEK in relation to the use of CCTV.
- Define training requirements to ensure all staff carry out duties responsibly, effectively, and appropriately to facilitate a safe environment for students to grow and learn.

- Ensure all staff are trained to recognize and appropriately support Students of Determination, including providing additional support where necessary to address any heightened vulnerabilities.

Safeguarding Supervision

Duty of care and In Loco Parentis (in place of a parent, when parents are absent): All members of staff in schools have the duty of care towards their students and are responsible for their wellbeing, safety and protections whilst they are under the school's supervision. The Principal shall accept in loco parentis responsibility for all students whilst under the school's supervision.

School-based Safeguarding Policy

LISQ will action the Safeguarding Policy to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all students who attend. This policy will be shared by all stakeholders within the whole school community.

LISQ Processes, Procedures, and Aspirations

All members of staff will receive annual safeguarding training. This is delivered by the designated safeguarding lead during the staff induction week. New staff who join throughout the year will also receive training on starting their position. A designated person with knowledge and skills in recognizing and acting upon child protection concerns is the first point of contact for staff and parents where a concern is identified. The DSL and deputies will receive external accredited training in the area of child protection and safeguarding. Policies for behavior, bullying, and code of conduct are in place and will be shared with all members of the school community. Safer recruitment procedures are in place for all members of the LISQ team. This means that teachers, admin, cleaners, security, etc., all go through rigorous security checks via the police and ADEK.

LISQ acknowledges that Students of Determination may experience unique safeguarding needs. Staff are required to be vigilant and responsive to any signs of distress, and additional procedures are in place to support these students, including

regular communication with parents and ensuring accessible reporting channels for students who require accommodations.

If an issue arises:
All staff are trained to recognize signs of child abuse. If they suspect and issue or if a student makes a disclosure, this is immediately reported to the DSL.

- An injury that is not typical of childhood bumps and scrapes that can be associated with everyday activities or are not consistent with the given explanation.
- Frequent injuries.
- Sudden changes in behavior, performance or attitude.
- Anxiety or low self-esteem.
- Knowledge of sexual matters or sexual behavior that is explicit and inappropriate.
- A disclosure made by a student about an incident that has occurred.

Once a report has been submitted to the DSL, they will gather a statement from the student. This should be as dictated by the student and without the use of leading questions. No promises of confidentiality can be made, but they must be made to feel safe and reassured. All documents must be signed, dated and time stamped. Depending on the nature of the concern/disclosure parents will be invited for an immediate meeting. If it is deemed that calling the parents would put the student at greater risk then a referral to the Child Protection Unit is made. All documents are shared with them and they will decide on what further action will be taken.

Monitoring and support procedures are then implemented in school to asset the student. All documents must be stored in case of police/court involvement, this includes handwritten notes. Record any bruises or marks on a body mark (appendix).

Safeguarding Personnel: The designated safeguarding team includes:

- **Designated Safeguarding Lead**: Ms. Abla Nabulsi, Vice Principal K-7
- **Deputy Safeguarding Lead**: Ms. Mariam Alkaabi, Social Worker
- **Deputy Safeguarding Lead**: Ms. Saeeda Alsuwaider, Social Worker

The School Principal has full overview of actions taken by the Safeguarding Team.

Responsibilities of the Safeguarding Team

- Ensure that the Principal is kept fully informed of any concerns.
- Ensure staff are aware of procedures.
- Ensure that the school safeguarding procedures are followed.
- Ensure that appropriate training and support is provided to all staff annually.
- Collect acknowledgements from staff members regarding training provided.
- Provide a range of safeguarding training for staff.
- Investigate if a concern is raised, whether this is an allegation against a parent, a member of staff, or students.
- Decide whether to take further action about specific concerns, secure records, and ensure documents and their contents are confidential.
- Guide parents and staff about getting support.
- Ensure all visitors to the school are aware of security and safeguarding procedures.
- Ensure parents have access to the LISQ Safeguarding Policy and provide information sessions on its purpose.
- Annually monitor and review the effectiveness of the school's Safeguarding Policy.
- Ensure compliance with relevant processes set out in the Student Protection Policy.
- If the Designated Safeguarding Lead is unavailable, then the concern will be passed to one of the named deputies to investigate.
- Monitoring students known or thought to be at risk from harm, including students with additional learning needs who could experience heightened vulnerability.

Safeguarding Awareness

LISQ will adopt strategies for safeguarding, including the following elements:

- Ensure the provision of a safe and caring environment in which all students can learn, thrive, and develop the confidence to voice ideas, feelings, and opinions in an atmosphere that prioritizes their best interests.

- Guarantee adherence to a zero-tolerance approach to student maltreatment and ensure that any visitor or member of the school community who has any maltreatment concerns about a student is aware and able to easily follow the processes as set out in the Student Protection Policy.
- Monitor students known or thought to be at risk from harm, in with additional learning needs, who could experience heightened vulnerability.
- Ensure staff know who to respond to safeguarding incidents and reassure victims and/or witnesses who make a disclosure that they are being taken seriously and supported.
- Ensure students and staff feel art of a positive and transparent environment where they can freely liaise with members of the safeguarding team in instances where they a concern or worry is raised about the behavior of a student, staff member or visitor.
- Be vigilant of student safety in online spaces per the Digital Policy.
- Ensure no policy within the school will adversely harm or jeopardize the health or wellbeing of a student in line with the Wellbeing Policy.
- Provide support and counseling that is accessible, free of judgement and available to all students, so they know who to turn to for advice and support within the school.
- Ensure parents understand they are obligated to enroll their child in school as per Federal Law No (39) of 2022 Concerning Compulsory Education and that sudden unexplained withdrawal of a student from school may be reported as a maltreatment concern as per the Student Protection Policy.
- Providing additional support and monitoring for Students of Determination, recognizing their specific needs and potential vulnerabilities.

Safeguarding and the Curriculum

LISQ shall ensure that our curriculum addresses safeguarding measures by:

- Focusing on the development of students' self-esteem and self-regulation.

- Fostering a sense of respect and civility towards people and other living things.
- Enabling the development and improvement of communication skills and expression of consent.
- Developing an understanding of all aspects of risk, including online behaviors and usage of social media.
- Assisting students in developing strategies for their self – protection and responses to peer pressure.
- Developing an understanding of how to best be responsible for their own and other's safety.
- Incorporating inclusive practices that address the specific safety needs of Students of Determination, ensuring accessible and responsive safeguarding instruction and materials.

Safeguarding the School's Security

LISQ shall implement a comprehensive security system to safeguard the school's assets, data, and people against any risk of harm. LISQ is equipped with integrated and fully functioning access and security systems, including security video surveillance cameras (CCTV systems). LISQ has and maintains a CCTV system via an MCC-licensed vendor in compliance with Manual of Surveillance Devices, MCC 2022.

LISQ CCTV cameras provide coverage of the following areas:

- All entrances and exits from the school grounds.
- All walkways and public areas, this include canteens, library, courtyard, gym and stairs.
- Student pick up and drop off areas for private vehicles and buses.
- Security areas.
- Learning spaces including classrooms, labs.
- Entrances to lavatories and changing areas (no cameras inside these spaces, or anywhere else with an expectation of privacy).

- All blind spots within the school premises.

Monitoring and Maintenance:
CCTV cameras are monitored daily, with regular checks to ensure they are working and providing appropriate coverage.

Access to Footage and Recordings:
CCTV is monitored from a specialized control room controlled by a specially trained member of the security team.

- The Principal can also access live streams from their office.
- The Principal and specialist security personnel are authorized to retrieve and view CCTV recordings.
- The Principal can authorize additional staff members to view the CCTV on a need-basis.
- A record of this is maintained.
- Parents are not permitted to view the CCTV footage.
- Schools shall provide access to ADEK personnel upon request.
- Copying or distribution of CCTV recordings is strictly prohibited and punishable by law, in line with the Federal Decree Law No (5) of 2012 on Combating Cybercrimes
- If an incident is caught on CCTV is beyond the school level, then the school will immediately notify ADEK.
- All CCTV recordings must be kept for 180 days.

Entering and Exiting the School Grounds

External Visitors:
All visitors must abide by the rules as set out by ADEK.
Visitors must report the security office on arrival at LISQ. Here they will give security their active ID in exchange for a visitor pass. The visitor will also be asked to provide name, phone number and reason for visit.
Visitors may then report to reception. No visitor may leave the reception area into the wider school without being accompanied by a member of staff.
On leaving the school grounds the visitor will return to the security of_ce to sign out and collect their ID.

Parents/Guardians:
On entering the school grounds, the parent/guardian must display their student collection cards. These must also be shown when collecting students from the teachers. Parents must collect students from the designated pick-up points only. Students will not be released without a parent collecting them or a valid gate pass. If a parent wishes their child to leave the school with someone else, this request must be submitted in writing in advance with a copy of the persons Emirates ID. This information will then be shared with relevant staff.

Student Gate Passes:
Students will only be issued a gate pass if they are in Grade 9 or above.
Students with gate passes will only be allowed to collect younger siblings if they are aged 15 or older. No student will be allowed to leave school premises without either being with a designated adult or having a gate pass.

External Providers:
Pre-approval will be sought from ADEK for anyone entering the school who will interact with students e.g. visiting speaker, book fair etc.

Managing Security Breaches

LISQ has established systems for managing any potential security breaches to prevent the occurrence of dangerous/harmful events, including unauthorized intruders.

- LISQ has a lockdown system in place which is rehearsed by all students and staff to ensure preparedness if needed in a real-world situation.
- Regular fire drills in place throughout the year to ensure students and staff are trained and prepared in the event of a real _re in line with the Health and Safety Policy.
- All digital incidents are recorded, documented and signed by the Principal and stored for auditing purposes.

Whistleblowing:

LISQ has procedures in place to enable any individual to raise a concern or allegation of organizational malpractice in confidence. All steps are taken to protect the anonymity and offer support to this individual.

Contact Details:

Ms. Abla Nabulsi	abla.nabulsi@lisq.ae
Ms. Mariam Alkaabi	mariam.alkaabi@lisq.ae
Ms. Saeeda Alsuwaider	saeeda.alsuwaider@lisq.ae
Contact Details As Per Student Protection Policy	
MoE Child Protection Unit	cpu@moe.gov.ae **116111/80085**
Safety Concern Portal	https://daasafetyconcern.abudhabi/
Family Care Authority	icm@adfca.gov.ae **800444**
Abu Dhabi Police	**999**

Policy Owner Department

Education Department

Key Stakeholders		
Policy Owner:	School Principal	LISQ School
Reviewed by:	Margaret Haynes	Director of Schools
	Kevin Wallis	Deputy CEO
Approved by:	Dr. Shereen Gobran	Chief Executive Officer