



## **Child Protection & Safeguarding Information for Parents**

### **Our Commitment to Your Child's Safety**

At Universal Philippine School, your child's safety, wellbeing, and happiness are our top priority. We are committed to fostering an environment where every student feels secure, respected, and supported — academically, emotionally, and socially.

We strictly follow the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy of the Abu Dhabi Department of Education and Knowledge (ADEK), as well as UAE child protection laws. This ensures that our entire school community understands their responsibility in maintaining a safe and caring environment built on trust and vigilance.

As part of this commitment, we continually strengthen our safeguarding measures through staff training, awareness programs, early identification of concerns, and clear reporting procedures. We also work collaboratively with parents, guardians, and authorities to protect all children from harm, abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

### **What is Child Protection?**

Child protection means keeping children safe from harm, abuse, neglect, bullying, and any behavior that threatens their wellbeing. It also includes supporting their emotional and social development in a caring school environment.

### **Key Principles We Follow**

- Every child has the right to feel safe and respected at school.
- We listen to children and value their voices.
- Concerns are handled confidentially and professionally.
- Parents, staff, and the school work together to keep children safe.

### **Types of Harm We Aim to Prevent**

We aim to protect children from all forms of harm, including:

#### **Physical Abuse**

Any act that causes physical injury or harm (e.g., hitting, beating, slapping, burning, shaking).

#### **Emotional / Psychological Abuse**

Behaviors that harm a child's mental and emotional wellbeing (e.g., shaming, insulting, threatening, isolating).

### **Sexual Abuse and Exploitation**

Inappropriate touching, exposure to sexual content, grooming, or exploitation on- or offline.

### **Neglect**

Failure to meet a child's basic needs (e.g., food, safety, medical care, emotional support, supervision).

### **Bullying and Cyberbullying**

Repeated harmful behavior such as harassment, intimidation, exclusion, or threats in person or online.

### **Online Abuse & Digital Exploitation**

Grooming, exposure to harmful content, online manipulation, or exploitation using digital platforms.

### **Discrimination or Harassment**

Unfair treatment or harmful actions based on race, nationality, ability, gender, beliefs, or any personal characteristic.

### **Our Child Protection Team**

If you have any concerns about a child's wellbeing, please contact our **Child Protection Team (CPT)**:

- Principal – Chairperson
- School Guidance Counselor – Vice Chairperson
- Prefect of Discipline
- School Doctor/Nurse
- Health & Safety Officer
- Designated Teachers
- Parent Representative

We are here to help and listen.

### **How Concerns Are Handled**

If a concern about a child's safety is raised:

1. The school listens and gathers information.
2. The Child Protection Team reviews the case.
3. Support is provided to the child.
4. Parents are contacted when appropriate.
5. If needed, cases are referred to proper authorities.

**All concerns are treated with care and confidentiality.**



## What Parents Can Do to Help

- Maintain open communication with your child.
- Monitor your child's online use and digital activities.
- Speak to the school if you notice unusual behavior or safety concerns.
- Model positive communication and respectful behavior.

## School Safety Practices

- Trained staff in child protection & wellbeing
- Safe and supervised school environment
- Anti-bullying and positive discipline programs
- Counselling and student support services
- Digital safety and awareness education

## How to Report a Concern

If you witness or become aware of a safety concern involving a child, please report it immediately through one of the following:

**Principal:** [principal@universalphilippine.school](mailto:principal@universalphilippine.school)

**Guidance & Wellbeing Center:** [guidance@universalphilippine.school](mailto:guidance@universalphilippine.school)

**Online Child Protection Reporting Form:** <https://forms.gle/yNy16E9gNnXnqUZ87>

## Important Reminder

Please report only truthful, clear, and verified information. Avoid sharing rumors, hearsay, or unconfirmed details. Providing accurate information protects children, supports fair investigation, and maintains trust.

All reports will be handled with care, confidentiality, and professionalism.

## Working Together for Our Children

Protecting children is a shared responsibility. We appreciate your cooperation, trust, and partnership in ensuring a safe and nurturing learning environment.

Together, we create a safe and happy school for every child!

*CHILD PROTECTION TEAM*  
*Universal Philippine School*

