



School of Knowledge
(St. Mary's Group of Schools)

HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY



This policy has been reviewed and aligned with the Sharjah Private Education Authority (SPEA) Strategy 2025–2028, emphasizing inclusive, student-centered, and safe educational environments that foster wellbeing, academic excellence, equity, innovation, and effective stakeholder engagement

Reviewed By & Date	Principal and SLT / JUNE 2025
Next Revision Date	AUGUST 2026

Approved by: Principal and SLT

VISION OF THE SCHOOL

Striving for excellence, striding towards success and seeking new horizons for personal growth and worth.

MISSION STATEMENT

Each toddler walking through the gates of School of Knowledge is viewed as a talent reserve and the school works relentlessly towards empowering each and every child.

CORE VALUES

We believe:

- ✓ In fostering honesty, charity, justice and service to others.
- ✓ In empowering critical and creative thinking.
- ✓ In a collaborative learning environment that involves cooperation among students, teachers, school leaders, staff and parents.
- ✓ In enabling students to become global citizens to face the challenges of the 21st century.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Role	Name
Principal	Mr. Peter Rowlands
Vice Principal	Sr. Sarala Christi
Child Protection Officer	Ms. Bridget Shekesy
Head/Administrative Coordinator	Ms Binu Paul, Ms Ulfath
School Counselors	Ms Feba Alina Thomas
	Ms Rhea Ashok Khare
Health Department	School Doctor and Nurses
Physical Education Department	Ms. Afshan , Mr. Robin

1. INTRODUCTION

School Of Knowledge provides a safe and healthy environment for students and staff. We believe that each individual is unique, having a preferred learning style and is capable of achieving his/her goals.

Policy

There are two following main elements in our Health and Safety policy;

Alertness, awareness, attention, and early detection of signs of physical and emotional, illness, abuse, discomfort and antisocial behavior.

Protection by following agreed procedures, ensuring staff are trained and supported to respond appropriately and sensitively to child safety and protection concerns.

We recognize our students deserve good health, high self-esteem, confidence, supportive friends, and clear lines of communication. Therefore, we strive to-

Establish and maintain an environment where students feel safe and secure and are encouraged to talk, and are listened to.

Ensure that students know that there are adults within the school whom they can approach if they are worried or are in difficulty.

Include in the curriculum activities and opportunities to equip students with the skills they need to stay safe from illnesses and abuse.

Included in the curriculum material which will help students develop realistic attitudes to the responsibilities of adult life.

Ensure that wherever possible every effort will be made to establish effective working relationships with parents and colleagues from partner agencies.

2. COORDINATED SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAMS

Health Education

- A planned, sequential Curriculum that addresses the physical, mental, emotional and social dimensions of health.
- The curriculum is designed to motivate and assist the students to maintain and improve their health, prevent disease, and reduce health related risk behaviors.

- It allows students to develop and demonstrate health-related knowledge, attitudes, skills and practices.

Physical Education

- A planned, sequential curriculum that provides cognitive content and learning experiences in a variety of activity areas such as basic movement skills, Physical fitness, rhythms, outdoor games, team plays, dual and individual sports, tumbling and gymnastics.
- Quality physical education should promote optimum physical, mental, emotional, and social development, through a variety of planned physical activities.
- Ensure that Qualified, trained teachers are supervising physical activities.

Health Services

- Services provided for students to appraise, protect, and promote health.
- These services are designed to ensure access or referral to primary healthcare services or both, foster appropriate use of primary health care, prevent and control communicable disease and other health problems, provide emergency care for illness or injury, promote and provide optimum sanitation.
- Conditions for a safe school facility and school environment, and provide educational and counseling opportunities for promoting and maintaining individual and Community health.
- Qualified professionals such as physicians, nurses, health educators, and other allied health personnel provide these services.

Counseling and Psychological Services

- To improve students' mental, emotional and social health.
- These services include individual and group assessments, interventions, and referrals.
- Organizational assessment and consultation skills of counselors and psychologists contribute not only to the health of students but also to provide a safe school environment.
- Professionals such as certified school counselors, psychologists, and social workers provide these services.

Healthy School Environment

- Factors that influence the physical environment include the school building and the area surrounding it, any biological and chemical agents that are detrimental to health, and physical conditions such as temperature, noise, and lighting.
- The psychological environment includes the physical, emotional, and social conditions that affect the well -being of students and staff.

Physical and Mental Health of the staff

- Opportunities for school staff to improve their health status through activities such as health assessments, health education and health-related fitness activities
- These opportunities encourage school staff to pursue a healthy lifestyle that contributes to their improved health status, improved morale, and a greater personal commitment to the school's overall coordinated health program.
- This personal commitment often transfers into greater commitment to the ductility, decreased absenteeism and reduced health insurance costs.

Immunization

School provides vaccines for the children due for it in collaboration with the Preventive Medicine Dept.

Mandatory health education topics

- Childhood Obesity
- Hands Hygiene & Respiratory Etiquette
- Healthy Diet & Nutrition
- Personal Hygiene
- Puberty Changes
- Importance of Immunization
- Importance of Physical Exercise
- Management of Asthma
- Management Diabetes
- lice prevention
- First aid
- Dental Hygiene

3. COMMUNICABLE DISEASE AND INFECTION CONTROL

School Policy:

Certain communicable diseases are designated as “notifiable diseases”. Health measures can be taken to prevent large outbreaks.

Because of the danger to student and employee health, school boards are required by law to safeguard the health of any student or employee who has contacted or been exposed to a communicable disease

Responsibilities of the School:

School should have policies/procedures for:

- Providing orientation, In-service education and resource materials for regarding management of communicable diseases
- Education of parents to keep children home when they are infected.
- School nurses should send the student home in case of suspected infection.

Student’s Responsibilities:

- Schools should have policies/procedures for:
- Immediate isolation of the infected student
- Proper disinfection procedures
- Notification of the infected case to the preventive medicine department
- Proper communication with parents including follow up
- The school nurse should send the infected student home immediately

Notifiable Conditions List

Reportable immediately by telephone on the day of recognition

- Chickenpox
- Diphtheria
- Hepatitis (viral or bacterial)
- Meningitides disease
- Outbreaks (Food borne, waterborne)
- Foot and mouth disease
- Tuberculosis
- Scarlet fever
- Worm Infestation
- Scabies

4. CHILD PROTECTION PROTOCOL

Student Privacy and Rights

Students are treated with respect, consideration, and dignity. The student has the right to privacy and confidentiality. Students or his/her guardian are provided with information concerning the evaluation and treatment options. Students are given the opportunity to participate in decisions involving their healthcare when such participation is not contraindicated. Student has the right to refuse any treatment or diagnostic procedures if he/she is advised of the medical consequences of that refusal.

Bullying

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all students so they can enjoy their involvement in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable within the school. If bullying does occur, all students should know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively.

Neglect:

The persistent or severe neglect of a child which results in impairment of health or development

Physical Abuse:

Physical injury to a child by someone is physical abuse.

Sexual Abuse:

Actual or likely exploitation of a child by involvement in sexual activities

Emotion:

Actual or likely severe adverse effects on the emotional and behavioral development of a child be persistent or severe emotional ill-treatment or rejection.

5. ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Decision Making:

Class Teachers:

Class teachers are usually the first persons who are contacted in the case of abuse. In these cases teachers should liaise and inform the designated child protection staff.

Responsibilities of school staff:

- All school staff have a responsibility to identify and report suspected abuse.
- Staff is expected to provide a safe and caring environment in which they should be aware of signs and symptoms of abuse.
- All school staff are expected to keep clear, dated, factual and confidential records of child protection.
- Particular attention will be paid to the attendance and development of any child who has been identified as at risk.

School Procedures:

The member of staff must record information regarding the concerns.

If a child has any concerns the matter must be reported to the designated

officer. First Aid training for teachers:

All the departments must have a person trained in first aid to deal with emergencies.

Parents:

- Parents will work towards the school's aims by:
- Ensuring that children attend school in good health.
- Notifying the school immediately regarding the health of their children.
- Providing prompt information to the school about absences and illnesses.
- Support the school's well-being and healthy eating policy. • Ensuring the school has up to date contact information and that any changes to details are communicated to the school.
- Ensuring early contact is made with the school to discuss major changes in family circumstances or other issues that affect the welfare of their child.
- Following the instructions of staff members during an emergency situation.

This Health and Safety Policy is developed in accordance with SPEA's 2025–2028 strategic direction to ensure proactive risk management, health equity, safeguarding, and student wellbeing in all operational aspects.

Following SPEA's framework, the school ensures optimal learning environments by maintaining physical safety, psychological wellbeing, and inclusive access to medical and emotional support services.