



Safe Touch Policy

Purpose

Dasman Bilingual School is committed to ensuring a safe, respectful, and nurturing environment for all students. This Safe Touch Policy is designed to help students and staff understand appropriate and inappropriate physical interactions, set clear boundaries, and promote a culture of safety and respect.

Understanding Safe & Unsafe Touches

Safe Touches

These are touches that provide comfort, reassurance, and respect for personal boundaries. Examples include:

- Friendly high-fives and handshakes
- A supportive pat on the back
- Assisting a student when necessary (e.g., a teacher helping if a student is injured)
- Hugs from family or friends (only if the student is comfortable)

Unsafe Touches

These are touches that cause harm, discomfort, or violate personal boundaries. Examples include:

- Hitting, pinching, pushing, or any aggressive physical contact
- Touching private parts (except for health-related reasons by a trusted professional)
- Any touch that makes a student feel uncomfortable, even if it seems friendly

Setting Boundaries & Giving Consent

- **Your body belongs to YOU** – Every student has the right to personal space and comfort.
- **You can say "No"** – Students have the right to refuse any physical contact they are not comfortable with.

Cognita: Thrive in a rapidly evolving world

- **Respect others' space** – Just as students have the right to set boundaries, they must respect the personal boundaries of others.

Responding to Unsafe Touches

If a student experiences an unsafe or unwanted touch:

- **Tell a Trusted Adult** – This could be a parent, teacher, counselor, or school leader.
- **Keep telling until someone helps** – If one adult does not act, students should report to another.
- **It's NEVER your fault** – No student should feel responsible for someone else's inappropriate behavior.

Staff Responsibilities

- All staff must model appropriate behavior and interactions with students.
- Teachers and staff must educate students about safe and unsafe touches as part of the school's safeguarding measures.
- If a staff member observes or receives a report of unsafe touch, they must immediately report it on CPOMS and inform the **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)**.

Professional Boundaries During Learning Support

- When assisting students with academic work, projects, or hands-on activities:
 - Maintain appropriate physical distance whenever possible.
 - Use verbal guidance and modeling instead of physical contact.
 - If physical assistance is needed (e.g., guiding a hand with scissors), explain the action beforehand and ask for the child's consent.
 - Always ensure assistance is given in visible, open spaces.
 - Staff must avoid prolonged or unnecessary physical contact and must never place themselves in situations where they are alone with a student in an enclosed space.
- Classrooms should be arranged to support clear sightlines and open movement.

- All support should foster independence and confidence in students.

Implementation & Training

- This policy will be shared with all students, parents, and staff.
- Regular training sessions will be conducted for students and staff on identifying and reporting unsafe touches.
- Visual reminders, such as posters and classroom discussions, will reinforce the importance of safe touch and personal boundaries.

Conclusion

Dasman Bilingual School is dedicated to fostering a culture of respect, consent, and personal safety. By working together, we can ensure a safe and nurturing environment for all students.

DOCUMENT CONTROL

COMPLIANCE	
<i>Compliant with</i>	Local legislation, CIS and NEASC

AUDIENCE	
<i>Internal</i>	All students, staff & parents in DBS

VERSION CONTROL	
<i>Author</i>	SLT & Fay Khan
<i>Implementation</i>	Annually-August to June
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