

HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

School Mission Statement:

Committed to the highest standards of pedagogy and education to keep the flames of learning ignited for life, Knowledgeum Academy ensures that all students achieve their highest potential to join the global community of learners and contribute proactively towards creating a better world through intercultural understanding and respect.

Purpose:

The academy places high importance on the health, safety, and welfare of its students, employees, and visitors. The health and safety policy is based on the guidelines provided by National Disaster Management on school safety policy. School Safety has been defined as the creation of safe environments for children, starting from their homes to their schools and back. This includes safety from large-scale natural hazards of geological/climatic origin, human-made risks, pandemics, violence, frequent and smaller-scale fires, transportation, and other emergencies. To the extent that it is reasonably practical, we have put in place the necessary policies and procedures to ensure compliance and reduce risk. We advocate a reasonable and balanced approach to health and safety issues.

School Disaster Management committee:

The academy has constituted a five-member committee to ensure that desired health and safety parameters are taken into consideration for learners' well-being.

The members include:

- School Chairperson (permanent)
- Head of School (permanent)
- School Admin and Finance Head (permanent)
- PTA Representative (one-year term)
- Student council representative (one-year term)

The Role of Committee

- The committee will meet once a quarter to discuss the health and safety procedures. The committee shall also consider opinions and feedback from stakeholders, the government health department, and NGOs working in the same sector to strengthen the health and safety of the school community
- School Safety is not a one-time effort but a continuous process. Safety principles need to be incorporated into the day-to-day functioning of the academy to avoid the traditional stages of the disaster cycle; preparedness, response, and recovery.

- The committee will have a systematic methodology and an approach that looks at safety as a continuously monitored indicator of quality.
- It will ensure that faculty members are adequately trained for different disasters/emergencies, such as sanitation and hygiene needs, first aid, stampede management, fire control, handling chemicals or hazardous materials in labs, etc.

Department of Health and First Aid:

The Department of Health and First Aid at the academy will play a major role in securing and maintaining all health (physical and psychological) records during admission. The department will also get health checks conducted with the support of parents.

It will inspect the school premises frequently to ensure that the best hygiene and safety practices are adhered to. The department will submit a weekly report on students' safety and hygiene and a quarterly report on safety and potential threats if there are any.

School Administration's Role:

The school administration will be responsible for:

- Allocating time for weekly knowledge and life-skill-building activities
- Incorporating school safety issues in the school development plan
- Ensuring that teachers and non-teaching staff receive the appropriate training in disaster risk reduction
- Ensuring that relevant norms and standards for school safety are met in school buildings and events
- Deploying appropriate strategies to encourage and support children in spreading disaster risk reduction knowledge to families and communities

Responsibility:

The health and safety of students are the responsibility of the entire school community, school administration, disaster management committee, staff members, parents, and Students. The policy calls for active participation and timely action by each individual to safeguard the health and security of students.

Reference:

<https://ndma.gov.in/sites/default/files/PDF/Guidelines/School-Safety-Policy.pdf#:~:text=The%20National%20School%20Safety%20Policy%20Guidelines%20stand%20for,as%20well%20as%20urban%20areas%20of%20the%20country>.