



DUBAI GEM PRIVATE SCHOOL

STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE

CYBER BULLYING POLICY - 2025 - 2026



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1. Policy Statement

Dubai Gem Private School (DGPS) is dedicated to creating a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment for all students. The school enforces a zero-tolerance policy towards all forms of bullying, including cyberbullying. DGPS acknowledges the important role of technology in education but stays alert to the potential misuse of digital platforms that could cause harm to others.

This policy upholds the UAE Child Rights Law (Federal Law No. 3 of 2016), the Cybercrimes Law (Federal Decree-Law No. 34 of 2021), and KHDA's Wellbeing Framework, ensuring that all members of the school community are safeguarded against online harm, harassment, or intimidation.

2. Definition

Cyberbullying is defined as the deliberate use of digital technology to harass, threaten, humiliate, or target another individual. It includes, but is not limited to:

- Sending or sharing harmful, threatening, or abusive messages or images via mobile phones, email, or social media.
- Posting or circulating defamatory, derogatory, or humiliating content online.
- Impersonating others or hacking digital accounts.
- Excluding individuals from online groups or activities to cause distress.
- Sharing images or videos without consent.
- Using online gaming platforms to insult or harass peers.

Cyberbullying can occur at any time, transcend school boundaries, and affect both the mental health and academic engagement of students.

3. Aims and Objectives

This policy aims to:

- Promote digital citizenship and awareness among students, staff, and parents.
- Develop clear procedures for reporting, investigating, and resolving incidents of cyberbullying.
- Provide consistent, fair, and restorative responses to all cases.
- Safeguard the well-being and dignity of every member of the DGPS community.
- Educate students about their digital footprint, self-regulation, and online safety.

4. Legal and Regulatory Framework

- The following UAE and KHDA frameworks guide this policy:
- Federal Law No. 3 of 2016 – Wadeema’s Law (Child Rights Law)
- Federal Decree-Law No. 34 of 2021 on Combatting Rumours and Cybercrimes
- Penal Code (Federal Law No. 3 of 1987) – addressing defamation, threats, and privacy violations
- KHDA School Inspection Framework (Wellbeing and Protection Standards)
- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, Article 19 – “You have the right to be protected from being hurt and mistreated, in body and mind.”

These laws affirm that defamation, extortion, and the distribution of explicit content involving minors are criminal offences, carrying severe penalties including imprisonment and substantial fines.

5. Preventive Education and Awareness

DGPS adopts a whole-school approach to digital safety through the following:

- Curriculum Integration: Cyber safety and online ethics are incorporated into PSHE, Moral Education, and ICT lessons.
- Assemblies and Workshops: Regular sessions for students, parents, and staff focus on responsible digital behaviour and prompt reporting.
- Staff Training: Teachers and pastoral staff regularly receive training on identifying, managing, and documenting cyberbullying incidents.
- Student Voice: Through the Student Council and wellbeing programmes, pupils are encouraged to “speak out” safely and responsibly

6. Roles and Responsibilities

Principal and Senior Leadership Team (SLT):

- Ensure full compliance with KHDA and UAE child protection requirements.
- Oversee investigations and ensure due process is observed.
- Communicate outcomes and subsequent steps to parents and relevant authorities when necessary.

Teachers and Support Staff:

- Model respectful online conduct.
- Report all suspected cases immediately to the designated safeguarding lead.
- Support affected students through restorative and pastoral approaches.

Parents and Guardians:

- Monitor their child’s online activity and maintain open communication with the school.
- Reinforce the school’s cyber safety guidance at home.

Students:

- Use technology responsibly.
- Report incidents of cyberbullying affecting themselves or others.
- Refrain from forwarding, liking, or sharing harmful material.

7. Reporting and Response Procedures

Any student, parent, or staff member may report cyberbullying through:

- Directly informing a teacher, counsellor, or member of the SLT.
- Using the DGPS Concern Reporting Form available on the school portal.
- Submitting screenshots or evidence of harmful content to support the report investigation.

Upon receiving a report:

- The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) records all details confidentially.
- The Pastoral and SLT teams review the incident.
- Victims are provided with immediate support and counselling.
- The perpetrator is allowed to reflect through a restorative action plan, alongside appropriate sanctions in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy.
- Where necessary, cases are escalated to law enforcement authorities in compliance with UAE cybercrime laws.

8. Sanctions and Consequences

Disciplinary measures will depend on the severity of the case and may include:

- Written warning or detention
- Temporary suspension of device or platform access
- Parental notification and mandatory counselling
- Fixed-term suspension or expulsion for repeated or serious offences
- Referral to relevant legal authorities for criminal violations

DGPS reserves the right to fully cooperate with the UAE Cybercrime Units, KHDA, and law enforcement agencies in cases involving illegal online activity.

9. Confidentiality and Record Keeping

All reports of incidents will be securely recorded in the Student Safeguarding Register. Confidentiality will always be maintained, with information shared only on a need-to-know basis to safeguard the child's well-being.

10.Support and Restorative Practices

DGPS promotes a culture of empathy, accountability, and restoration. Support measures include:

- Counselling and emotional support for victims.
- Behavioural reflection and re-education for perpetrators.
- Mediation sessions, where appropriate, to rebuild trust and understanding.
- Ongoing monitoring and follow-up by the pastoral team.

11.Monitoring and Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure compliance with the latest KHDA guidelines, UAE federal legislation, and international best practices. Feedback will be collected from students, parents, and staff through the school's well-being surveys and safeguarding audits.

12. Conclusion

Dubai Gem Private School remains committed to safeguarding every child's right to safety, dignity, and respect—both in physical and online environments. Through education, vigilance, and collaboration with parents, DGPS aims to foster a digitally responsible and compassionate community where bullying in any form is unacceptable and has no place.