

## POCSO COMMITTEE 2024-2025

### INTRODUCTION

The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO for short) was passed in 2012 to comprehensively deal with the issue of sexual offences against children. The aim of this special law is to address offences of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children. All children have equal rights to access education in an environment that is safe, protective and conducive to overall development. The challenges of gender inequality, eve teasing and sexual abuse in school environment & outside schools call for increased awareness and creating synergy among parents, teachers and schools. The POCSO Act for students defines certain crimes against them and imposes severe penalties for such crimes.

By providing education on the topic of child sexual abuse, school authorities and teachers can help to raise awareness of the issues and empower children to protect themselves.

Keeping the above guidelines, Ira International School, Butibori Nagpur has constituted a committee against sexual harassment, where appropriate measures will be taken to ensure that school discipline is administered in a manner consistent with the child's dignity.

### WHAT IS CHILD ABUSE?

Child abuse means any form of maltreatment inflicted on a child including physical abuse, sexual abuse and emotional abuse.

### INDICATORS OF ABUSE

#### PHYSICAL & SEXUAL ABUSE

- Bruises & cuts
- Bite marks
- Problems in school
- Drug or alcohol abuse
- Seeming frightened of parents, reluctant to return home after school
- Urinary infection
- Refusing to go to school
- Uses inappropriate sexual language

#### EMOTIONAL ABUSE

- Lack of confidence and self-esteem
- Nightmares & bed wetting
- Difficulties in controlling emotions
- Anxiety, unhappiness or withdrawal
- Lack of social skills
- Self-harm or attempts at suicide
- Eating disorder
- Fear of a particular person.

## APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR STANDARDS FOR STAFF TOWARDS THE STUDENTS.

- Teachers must emphasize healthy social and interpersonal development.
- Teacher should not humiliate the student and should maintain the self respect of the student.
- Teachers should create a line between discussions & arguments.
- Provide an unabling environment for children’s personal social physical emotional & moral development.
- Should be inclusive and involve all children without selection and exclusion on the basis of gender disability, ethnicity & religion.
- Should develop special measures of supervision of younger and specially vulnerable children from peer & adult abuse.
- If any type of abuse is identified by a teacher, he/she should report the matter to the chairperson ( Principal of the school).
- Teachers be aware & educated on the law, rules and guidelines related to child protection as amended from time to time.

## MEMBERS OF POCSO COMMITTEE-2024-2025

SR.NO	NAME	DESIGNATION	POSITION
1	MANISHA SATHE	PRINCIPAL	CHAIRPERSON
2	KUNTAL KAWALE	PGT P.ED	SECRETARY
3	YASMEEN BEGUM	ACADEMIC COORDIAN TOR	MEMBER
4	RODNEY LEO	PGT. P.ED	MEMBER
5	DEVIKA GOKHALE	STUDENT COUNCELLOR	MEMBER
6	POONAM CHAODHARY	SPECIAL EDUCATOR	MEMBER
7	VAISHALI SHELKE	TGT SCIENCE	MEMBER
8	MR.AMAN SRIVASTAV	LAWYER	MEMBER
9	ANURAG ADHALE	HEAD BOY	MEMBER
10	YADNYVI CHOUDHARI	HEAD GIRL	MEMBER

**THE FOLLOWING HARRSSMENT & ABUSE IS COVERED BY  
THE COMMITTEE**

Ira International School's POCSO COMMITTEE deals with sexual harassment & child abuse. A complaint of abuse & harassment may be lodged by the victim or the third party. A written complaint may be addressed to the principal & if any of the committee members receives the complaint, he/ she should forward it to the principal.

According to the Supreme Court guidelines, sexual harassment can be defined as sexually determined behaviour

- ✓ Physical contact and advances
- ✓ Demand for sexual favour.
- ✓ Touching and Brushing against any part of the body and the like.
- ✓ Forcefully physical touch and molestation.
- ✓ Physical confinement against ones will.
- ✓ Verbal Abuse.
- ✓ Unwelcome sexual overtone in any manner.
- ✓ Jokes causing or likely to cause awkward or embarrassment

## FUNCTIONS & ROLE OF POCSO COMMITTEE

Ira International School, Butibori will conduct Workshops & Training of Students, Staff & Parents. The aim of these workshops will be to create awareness about

- ❖ What constitutes abuse & exploitation?
- ❖ Manner of reporting and complaining.
- ❖ To teach children to protect themselves from abuse.
- ❖ To address the nature & cause of abuse.
- ❖ Life skill training & activities.
- ❖ Practice prevention guidelines for parents.
- ❖ To ensure all learners are aware of their rights and responsibilities towards themselves.

## MEETINGS & TIMELY DISCUSSIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

The committee will hold meetings plan of action, cases queries & updates which will be supervised by the Chairperson Mrs. Manisha Sathe ( Principal).