

OM RAMESHWAR ASSOCIATION INC
Operated
ORA SYDNEY GUJARATI GRAMMAR SCHOOL



Student Welfare Policy

Student Welfare Policy

Context

Student welfare in our community language school encompasses everything we do to meet the personal, social and learning needs of students.

We create a safe, caring environment in which students are nurtured as they learn. This is achieved via:

- Collaborative early intervention when problems are identified;
- Providing opportunities for students to:
 - enjoy success and recognition;
 - make useful contributions;
 - derive enjoyment from their learning.

We provide effective learning and teaching within secure, well-managed environments. The objectives and outcomes that follow therefore relate to:

- Effective Learning and Teaching;
- Positive Climate and Good Discipline;
- Community Participation.

Effective Learning and Teaching

Objective:

To enhance effective learning and teaching by training teachers to:

- Encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning and behaviour;
- Identify and cater for the individual learning needs of students;
- Establish well-managed teaching and learning environments;
- Ensure that learning activities build on prior knowledge and experiences and are socially and culturally relevant;
- Identify key social skills and developing plans for all students to acquire them, or make progress towards them, over time;
- Ensure that gender and equity issues are recognised and addressed across the curriculum.

Outcomes:

- Students will be active participants in the learning process;
- Coordinated student services will provide effective support to classroom programs;
- The learning experiences of students will affirm their individuality and be positive and satisfying.

Results for students:

- Students will participate in decisions about their own learning;
- Students will pursue a program of learning relevant to their needs and aspirations;
- Students will develop an understanding of themselves as well as skills for positive, socially responsible participation;
- Students will develop competencies which enhance the quality of their relationships with others;
- Students will feel valued as learners.

Positive Climate and Good Discipline

Objective:

To enhance the community language school climate and discipline by encouraging teachers to:

- Maximise student participation in decision making and ensuring that principles of equity and fairness are reflected in school practice;
- Provide opportunities for students to demonstrate success in a wide range of activities;
- Develop and implement policies and procedures to protect the rights, safety and health of all language school community members;
- Establish clear school rules which are known and understood by all language school community members;
- Monitor attendance and ensuring that students attend their classes regularly;
- Value and provide opportunities for all students to develop the skills involved in positive relationships, social responsibility, problem solving and dispute resolution;
- Value difference and discourage narrow and limiting gender stereotypes;
- Incorporate students' views into planning related to school climate and organisation;
- Establish networks to support students and making sure that students and parents/guardians know about, and have ready access to, this support;
- Recognise the relationship between student and staff welfare and ensuring that staff welfare is also a priority.

Outcomes:

- The well-being, safety and health of students and other community members will be priorities in all policies, programs and practices;
- Principles of equity and justice will be evident in plans, programs and procedures;
- The discipline code of the community language school will provide clear guidelines for behaviour which are known by staff, students and parents/guardians who have contributed to their development;
- The language school will be a disciplined, ordered and cohesive community where individuals take responsibility and work together;

- The language school will reflect the values of its community and will welcome the participation of community members in the life of the school;
- The language school will be an inclusive environment which affirms diversity and respects difference.

Results for students:

- Students will be safe in the school environment;
- Students will know what is expected of them and of others in the school community;
- Students will be able to learn without disruption from unruly behaviour;
- Students will be provided with appropriate support programs;
- Students will contribute to decision making in the school;
- Students will participate in all aspects of school life as equals;
- Students will value difference;
- Students will be respected and supported in all aspects of their schooling.

Community Participation

Objective:

To enhance community participation by:

- Building learning communities in which staff, students and parents work together for planned results;
- Encouraging parents/guardians and community members to participate actively in the education of young people and in the life of the school;
- Acknowledging parents/guardians as partners in community language school education;
- Encouraging students to have a sense of belonging to the language school community;
- Assisting families to gain access to support services in the community.
- Fostering close links with the wider community;
- Inviting parents/guardians to share their skills and experiences in the language school community;
- Supporting students and their parents/guardians in making decisions about learning programs;
- Recognising students' families, cultures, languages and life experiences.

Outcomes:

- There will be strong links between students, staff, parents/guardians and other members of the school community;
- Parents/guardians and community members will participate in the education of young people and share the responsibility for shaping appropriate student behaviour;
- The curriculum, goals, plans and actions of the school will reflect the needs and aspirations of students and the wider school community;

- Students, parents/guardians and teachers will perceive that the learning and teaching programs in the community language school are relevant and beneficial;
- Staff will facilitate parents/guardians and community involvement in a range of language school activities.

Results for students:

- Students will be supported by parents/guardians and community participation in language school activities;
- Students will value the language school as an integral part of the community;
- Students and their families will know how to gain access to relevant support services in the community;
- Students will be partners with parents/guardians and teachers in the teaching and learning processes at the school.

Responsibilities

Community language school teaching and support staff, will:

- Ensure that they are familiar with the relevant policies;
- Contribute to the provision of a caring, well-managed, safe environment for all students, fellow staff and parents/guardians;
- Participate in the learning and teaching process in ways which take account of the objectives in this policy;
- Participate in the school community's implementation of the Student Welfare Policy.

Students will be encouraged to:

- Act according to the discipline code established by the language school community;
- Contribute to the provision of a caring, safe environment for fellow students, staff and parents/guardians;
- Participate actively in the learning and teaching process;
- Practise peaceful resolution of conflict.

Parents/guardians will be encouraged to:

- Participate in the learning of their children and the life of the community language school, including reviews of student welfare and the discipline code;
- Share responsibility for shaping their children's understanding about acceptable behaviour;
- Work with teachers to establish fair and reasonable expectations of the school.