



Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

2024-2025

LOCATIONS

CAMPUS I

C/ de Sant Agustí 3
08012 Barcelona

CAMPUS II

C/ del Montseny 22
08012 Barcelona

Art & English Language Center
C/ del Torrent de l'Olla, 28
08012 Barcelona

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email Address: info@barcelonahighschool.com

Direct Phone Number: +34 618 27 02 32

Website: <https://www.barcelonahighschool.com>

Instagram: [@barcelonahighschool](https://www.instagram.com/barcelonahighschool)

Mission Statement

The mission of Barcelona High School (BHS) is to support all students academically, socially, and psychologically by providing a challenging and nurturing educational experience that fosters personal growth, creativity, and a sense of community.

World Vision

The vision of Barcelona High School (BHS) is to create a dynamic and innovative learning environment that prepares all students for success in a rapidly changing world.

Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

Purpose: At Barcelona High School, the safety and well-being of our students are our top priorities. We are committed to providing a secure and supportive environment where children can learn and thrive. This policy outlines our commitment to child protection and safeguarding, ensuring compliance with Spanish law and best practices.

Scope: This policy applies to all staff of Barcelona High School, including teaching and non-teaching staff.

Child Protection

Objectives

- To protect children from harm, abuse, and neglect.
- To promote a culture of vigilance and responsibility among staff.
- To ensure all staff understand their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding children.

Staff Responsibilities

- All staff members are responsible for safeguarding children and must act in the best interests of the child at all times.
- All staff members are responsible for taking immediate action if a child is in danger and/or if there is a suspicion of abuse or neglect. All staff members are responsible for following the reporting procedures as outlined in this policy.

Designated Contacts for Reporting

- Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL):
 - Name: Vince Henneburg
 - Title: Social Worker
 - WhatsApp Contact: +1 703 405 5631 Email: vince@barcelonahighschool.com
- Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL):
 - Name: Meryl Singh
 - Title: Guidance Counselor
- WhatsApp Contact: +0044 7599470925 Email: meryl@barcelonahighschool.com

Reporting Procedures for Suspected Abuse

Recognizing Signs of Abuse

- Physical Abuse: Unexplained injuries, bruises, or burns.
- Emotional Abuse: Excessive withdrawal, fearfulness, or anxiety.
- Sexual Abuse: Inappropriate sexual behavior or knowledge for the child's age. Recurring pain and itching in the genitals. Wearing or sleeping with multiple layers of clothing
- Neglect: Poor hygiene, malnutrition, lack of medical care and/or lack of shelter.

Reporting Procedures

- **Step 1: Immediate Action**
 - If a child is in immediate danger, contact emergency services (112) immediately.
- **Step 2: Informing the DSL**
 - Report any suspicions or disclosures of abuse to the DSL or DDSL as soon as possible.
 - Provide a written report detailing the concerns, including dates, times, and any relevant information.
- **Step 3: DSL Response**
 - The DSL will assess the information and decide on the appropriate course of action, which may include:
 - Contacting child protection services (Servei de Protecció a la Infància i l'Adolescència / Servicios Sociales) or the police.
 - Consulting with external child protection experts.

- Ensuring the child is in a safe environment.
- **Step 4: Record Keeping**
 - All reports and actions taken will be documented and stored securely, maintaining confidentiality.

Who is Mandated to Report

Professionals who work closely with children are legally required to report any suspicion of abuse or neglect. This includes teachers, healthcare workers, social workers, psychologists, and law enforcement personnel.

What Must Be Reported

- Any reasonable suspicion or evidence of physical, sexual, or emotional abuse, or neglect of a minor.
 - This includes not only current incidents but also risk situations where harm to the child may occur.

Training

All staff will receive regular training on child protection and safeguarding, including how to recognize signs of abuse and how to respond appropriately.

Code of Conduct for Interacting with Students

Professional Boundaries

- Staff must maintain professional boundaries with students at all times.
- Avoid situations where you are alone with a student unless necessary and ensure transparency by informing another staff member.

Physical Contact

- Physical contact should be appropriate, necessary, and consensual.
- Avoid unnecessary physical contact, particularly in private settings.

Communication

- Communication with students should be professional and respectful.

- Use school-approved channels for communication (e.g., school email).
- At least one Administration member must be in any school group chat as an overseer of the chat.

Confidentiality

- Respect the privacy of students and maintain confidentiality of information unless disclosure is required to protect the student.

The Reporting Concerns

- Any inappropriate behavior or breaches of this code by staff should be reported to the DSL immediately.
- Failure to adhere to this code of conduct may result in disciplinary action.

Resources

Disclaimer: The resources listed in this document are provided as potential points of contact. However, it is the responsibility of the designated leads to familiarize themselves with local authorities and the appropriate contacts within their jurisdiction. Please note that the information contained herein is subject to change and is intended as a general guide, not a definitive resource.

1. Emergency Situations:

- **Call 112:** This is the general emergency number for Spain. If a child is in immediate danger, this is the fastest way to get help.

2. Local Social Services:

- **Contact Social Services (Serveis Socials)** in your local district. Every district in Barcelona has a social services office that can help with child protection concerns.
- You can find your local office using the **Ajuntament de Barcelona** (City Council) website or by calling **010**, the city information line, for assistance.

3. Catalonia Child and Adolescent Protection Line:

- **Phone:** 116 111 (This is a free and confidential helpline for children and adolescents or anyone concerned about their well-being.)
- This number connects directly with professionals who provide support and guide you on the next steps.

4. Barcelona Child Protection Department:

- **Servei de Protecció a la Infància i l'Adolescència**
- **Phone:** +34 935 673 700
- **Email:** proteccioinfancia@gencat.cat