

AHBS Weapons On Campus Policy 25-26

Purpose

This policy sets out clear expectations and procedures to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all members of our school community. Staff play a key role in enforcing this policy and responding appropriately to any incident involving weapons.

Definition of a Weapon

A *weapon* is:

- Any manufactured device designed to injure or kill another being; or
- Any device designed to appear as or imitate a weapon.

Examples include (but are not limited to):

- Firearms
- Explosives (including fireworks)
- Air guns, pellet guns, or BB guns
- Crossbows or long bows
- Martial arts weapons, swords, or prohibited blades
- Hunting or fishing knives
- Brass knuckles
- Replica or imitation firearms
- Craft knives or blades not required for safe, supervised school use

Policy Requirements

- No student, staff member, parent, visitor, or contractor may bring weapons onto school premises or to any school event (on or off site).
- Replica or imitation weapons are treated as real weapons for the purposes of this policy.

- Students must not have craft knives, blades, or other prohibited items in their school equipment.

Staff Responsibilities

1. Equipment Checks

- Conduct equipment checks at the start of each term.
- Confiscate any prohibited items immediately (for example; craft knives).
- Record the confiscation and notify parents that the item has been removed.

2. Immediate Action in Case of Weapons

- If a weapon is found or suspected:
 - Do not confront the student directly if it poses a risk.
 - Ensure the safety of students and staff.
 - Report immediately to the **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)** and **Principal** who will then perform a search of the property where the weapon is being held.
- The Principal will inform the **Regional Managing Director**.

3. Communication with Parents

- Parents must be informed whenever a prohibited item is found in a student's possession. The DSL/Principal will be responsible for informing the family.
- The following consequences will be followed as per the relationship policy.
- Reinforce with parents that students are not permitted to bring knives, blades, or any other weapons to school.

Consequences and Follow-Up

- Students found with a weapon will face **serious disciplinary action**, which may include suspension or permanent exclusion.
- Staff, parents, visitors, or contractors violating this policy will be removed from school grounds and reported to the appropriate authorities in line with UAE law.

Compliance

This policy complies with UAE law regarding the possession of weapons. All staff must remain vigilant and proactive in enforcing this policy to ensure the safety of our school community.