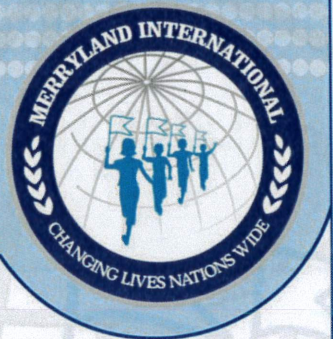




MERRYLAND INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Anti-Bullying Policy Addendum: School Transport

1. Purpose

To ensure that all students are safe from bullying during travel on school-provided or contracted transport services, in accordance with ADEK and SCMC child protection standards.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all school buses, vans, contracted vehicles, school trips, and related waiting areas before and after school hours.

3. Unacceptable Behavior

Bullying on transport includes but is not limited to:

- **Physical bullying:** Pushing, hitting, damaging/stealing personal belongings or physical intimidation
- **Verbal bullying:** Name-calling, teasing, or making hurtful remarks.
- **Social bullying:** Excluding others, spreading rumours, manipulating friendships, seat-blocking
- **Cyberbullying:** Misuse of mobile devices to harass or intimidate peers during transit.

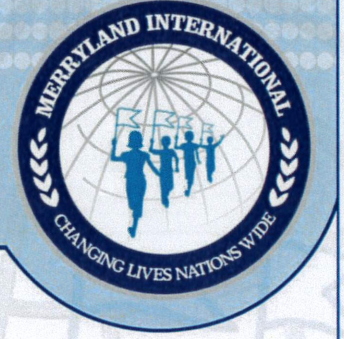
4. Roles and Responsibilities

Clearly outline the duties of all stakeholders involved:

- **School Administrators:** Ensure compliance with ADEK and ITC policies, and provide necessary resources for training and monitoring.
- **Bus Drivers and Supervisors:** Receive training on child protection, bullying prevention, and emergency response protocols.
- **Students:** Adhere to the school's code of conduct during transit, report any bullying incidents, and support peers in maintaining a respectful environment.
- **Parents:** Collaborate with the school to reinforce anti-bullying messages and ensure their children understand the importance of respectful behaviour.

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5. Preventive Measures

- Mandatory annual training for all transport staff on child protection and recognizing bullying.
- Visual display of conduct rules in every bus.
- Orientation for students on transport behavior expectations.

6. Monitoring and Supervision

- Each school bus will have a trained supervisor or monitor present.
- Supervisors are required to report any observed or suspected bullying incidents to the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) within 24 hours.
- Video surveillance may be used in accordance with privacy laws.

7. (i). Report Mechanism

- Any incident seen in the bus is intervened by the supervisor (driver/conductor) immediately.
- The bus supervisor reports the incident to the DSL.
- Repeated incidents will be notified to the Anti-Bullying Committee.

(ii) Reporting and Response Protocol

- All reports will be documented and investigated following the school's standard safeguarding procedures.
- Transport-related bullying is treated with the same seriousness as incidents occurring on school premises.
- Parents of involved students will be informed, and appropriate disciplinary actions will follow the school's code of conduct.

8. Support for Affected Students

- Provide safe seating arrangements or transfer to a different vehicle if necessary.
- Offer counseling or mediation support.
- Ensure ongoing monitoring to prevent recurrence.

9. Continuous Review

- Transport-related bullying trends will be reviewed each term.
- The policy will be updated annually in alignment with ADEK and SCMC guidance.

Principal

