



POCSO

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM SEXUAL OFFENCE

Internal Complaints Committee under the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013

Following the promulgation of the sexual harassment of women at workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 and rules framed there under, the complaints committee earlier constituted under the guidelines and norms laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and Others, vide circular dated 30 May 2013, has now been constituted as per section 4 (1) of the above act. The act requires that every employer constitutes an internal complaints committee (ICC) at each office or branch with 10 or more employees. In accordance with the above act, the following internal complaints committees (ICC) for each of the School wings have been constituted:

SCHOOL COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Head : Nita Patil (Principal)
- Incharge Student Welfare: Ms. Shailey Mishra
- Overall discipline incharge: Mr. Sanjay Fargade
- Senior Wing : Mrs. Sarika Dhumal, Mrs. Varsha Joshi
- Middle Wing: Ms. Jyoti Sahwney
- Junior Wing: Ms. Anjali Nadgam
- Parent Representative: Mrs. Dipa Darekar
- Members: School Head boy (Sairaj Rote), School Head girl (Sharayu Pawar)
- NGO: Mrs. Ina Hathi (Robin hood Army)

We also conduct various "Gender sensitization" programmes, adolescence related programs and special activities from time to time:

TEACHERS' WORKSHOPS

Gender Sensitization workshop is being conducted on a monthly basis where Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) act is discussed. The teachers are trained to attend to adolescence related issues. They are primarily made aware to notice the behavior pattern of children. This particularly includes close monitoring of academic performance and psychological behavior, categorically in cases of sudden decline in performance, lack of interest, depression, aloofness etc. The teachers are educated on how to counsel a child if they notice such behavior pattern. They are also well trained to talk to parents on the subject of child sexual abuse from time to time.

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STUDENTS' WORKSHOPS

In order to provide a safe, protective and conducive environment to our children for their overall development, we keep conducting workshops wherein children are taught to differentiate between good touch and bad touch. They are encouraged not to hide things and to report inappropriate behavior to their teacher. There is also a provision of COMPLAINT BOX in the School, where children can drop their complaints though we have not received any complaints so far.

SELF DEFENSE TRAINING PROGRAMME

Special activities like Karate & Taekwondo classes are regularly held in school which not only give self defense training but also boost their confidence.

Komal : A Film To Create Awareness Among School Children About Inappropriate Touch

Childhood is the primary stage of life. It knows no worry or anxiety, no good or evil. It is the period of both ignorance and innocence. Teachers, parents and all concerned adults, should all try to keep children safe from any kind of abuse. Within our different areas of responsibility, guided by policy, legislation and experience, we should take steps to provide what is best for children. One important step in this regard can be equipping and empowering children at the right age.

Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India had commissioned a short animated film (Komal) which has also won the national film award in the category of "best educational film" to create awareness among school children about inappropriate touch. The URLs on which this movie is available as under:

Komal (English) = <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3WyHuHspbjk>

Komal (Hindi) = <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sf18D5hCMa8>

1. A film on child abuse was shown to all the students
2. Parents are made aware about the E-Box on POCSO and Child Abuse in Parent Teacher Meeting.

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