

Child Protection



مدرسة دبي للتربية الحديثة
Dubai Modern Education School

It is our collective responsibility to ensure
the safety of every one of our students

Today we will:

- o Define Child Protection
- o Know about the UAE Child Protection Law
- o Know your responsibilities
- o Identify different types of abuse
- o Learn to recognize signs of abuse
- o Know how to report child protection concerns
- o Know how to create a safe working environment for all

UAE Child Protection Law

- o The Federal Law No 3 of 2016 places a legal duty on local authorities, governing bodies and people in positions of child wellbeing to protect children.
- o Schools are required by the KHDA to provide staff with a child safeguarding training.

Highlights of Federal Law No 3 of 2016



- Children have the **basic rights to live and be safe**
- Children shall **be raised in an environment that encourages them to adhere to their faith**
- Children have **the right to be given citizenship**, to be registered under the names of their parents



- The law bans child labour, **children can only begin working at the age of 15**
- Parents or guardians must provide all requirements of family **safety for children**
- Children's **right to be given a name** that does not demean them or harm their dignity



- **No sale of tobacco to children** under the age of 18
- The law **bans smoking in public** and private transport, as well as indoor facilities, if children are present



- **Right to education** and equal opportunities without any kind of discrimination

- **No sale of alcohol** or any other dangerous substances to children

- **Protection from being abandoned** or left without a breadwinner in case of losing their parents



- The **law safeguards children from negligence**, sexual abuse and being homeless

- **Convicted sex offenders are banned** from working in any job that has them directly interacting with children



- **Ban on using children** in any photographs, recordings or production of pornography

- Children must have **access to health services** in the country

Who is responsible?

- o All staff in school are in a good position to recognize the signs that a child's needs are not being met. If staff recognize and report concerns, this may prevent abuse from happening. If staff don't know how to recognize and report concerns, children can be left at risk of harm.
- o We are all responsible.

Immediate Support Team

Initial Contact	
Child Protection Officer	Section
Ms Nardeen (Counselor)	US Grades 4-12
Ms Nora (Counselor)	US Grades KG-3
Ms Marwa (Teacher)	MOE

Secondary Contact and Oversight	
Mr Andrew (Vice Principal)	US Grades 4-12
Ms Denise (Vice Principal)	US Grades KG-3
Mr Khalid (Principal)	MOE

Child Protection Committee

The Committee will meet regularly and as needed

Mr Andrew (Vice Principal)	Ms Nardeen (CPO & Counselor)
Ms Denise (Vice Principal)	Ms Nora (CPO & Counselor)
Mr Khalid (Principal)	Ms Marwa (CPO & Teacher)
Ms Raghad (Head of SEN)	Ms Heba (KG-3 Support)
Ms Rosa (Social Worker)	Section Supervisors

Your responsibilities

- o Child protection is about making sure that all those who work with children in school are safe, competent and confident to do so. Staff need to know how to work in a safe, appropriate way with children. Safe, professional conduct protects both children and staff.
- o It is your legal responsibility to report any suspected case of abuse.

Types of Abuse

- o Physical Abuse
- o Neglect
- o Sexual Abuse
- o Emotional Abuse

Physical Abuse

- o **Physical abuse** may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, pushing, shoving or otherwise causing physical harm to a child or any other kind of physical actions that cause a child any harm.

Neglect

- o **Neglect** is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and / or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious harm to the child's health and / or development.

Sexual Abuse

- o **Sexual Abuse** involves forcing or encouraging a child or young person to take part in sexual activities. This may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of inappropriate images or other material.

Emotional Abuse

- o **Emotional Abuse** is the ongoing emotional treatment of a child which causes serious negative effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to a child that they are worthless or unloved or inadequate. It may include deliberately silencing them or 'making fun' of what they say. It may involve serious bullying (including cyberbullying), causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children.

Some Signs of Abuse

- o Physical signs: bruises, cuts or tenderness
- o Change in behavior: withdrawal, aggression, sadness, fear of others
- o Unusual eating habits: refusing to eat or over-eating
- o Low self-esteem, fear of failure, feelings of guilt
- o Difficulty in forming relationships, suspicion of others, lack of trust, disinterest in everything
- o Development of a stutter or unwillingness to communicate
- o Unexplained absence from school

Reporting Abuse: DO...

- o Staff need to RECOGNIZE when there may be an issue with a child. Being able to recognize concerns means being familiar with the indicators of abuse.
- o Staff must RESPOND to a concern about a child by passing the information to the Child Protection Officer (CPO) or supporting SLT member as soon as possible. Staff must then make a written record of their concern.

Reporting Abuse: Do Not...

- o Staff are not **RESPONSIBLE** for investigating concerns about a child. Investigating includes in depth questioning of a child, colleagues, parents, physically examining children, taking photographs of injuries.
- o Staff should not **ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE** the situation themselves, e.g. make and act upon decisions about how they think the matter should be dealt with. This kind of action fails to take account of any other information that may be held about the child e.g. other concerns the CPO or SLT may know.

Recording Suspected Abuse

- o Child's name and date of birth
- o Date and time of the concern
- o Factual account of what happened, where and who was present using the child's own words
- o Any opinion / interpretation needs to be explained
- o Your response
- o Printed name and signature of person making the record
- o Job title of person making the record
- o Date and time of the record

Create a Safe Environment

- o Our students have the right to be safe here at school
- o Do your part to help to develop a culture of kindness

When Talking and Listening to Children

DO:

- o Be approachable
- o Listen carefully, uncritically and at the child's pace
- o Take what is said seriously
- o Clarify essential information
- o Reassure
- o Tell the child what will happen next
- o Tell the Child Protection Officer or SLT Member without delay
- o Record

When Talking and Listening to Children

DO NOT:

- o Investigate
- o Try to resolve
- o Promise confidentiality
- o Make Assumptions
- o Dismiss anything the child says

When Speaking to Children

- o Please think about how you speak to students
- o Ask yourself... “Would I be happy if someone spoke to me or to my child in this way?”

Safe Working Practice

- o All staff should clearly understand the need to maintain appropriate professional boundaries in their dealings with young people.
- o Ongoing attention should be maintained within the school so that poor or unsafe practice is identified at the earliest opportunity.

When dealing with children

- o Please consider how you interact physically with students
- o **DO NOT PUSH OR HIT STUDENTS UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES**
- o The school has an obligation under the law to report any teacher who deals with students inappropriately

Be Aware - Be Informed

Key documentation in the school:

- o 'Record Of Concern' Form
- o Child Protection Policy
- o Staff Handbook
- o UAE Child Protection Law
- o If unsure of any of the information, please seek guidance from the Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

Be Aware - Protect Yourself

- o Physical contact
- o Control and physical intervention
- o Communication with a child, including e-safety
- o Personal care
- o One to one situations
- o Relationships

Key Principles

- o *The welfare of the child is the most important thing.*

Staff should:

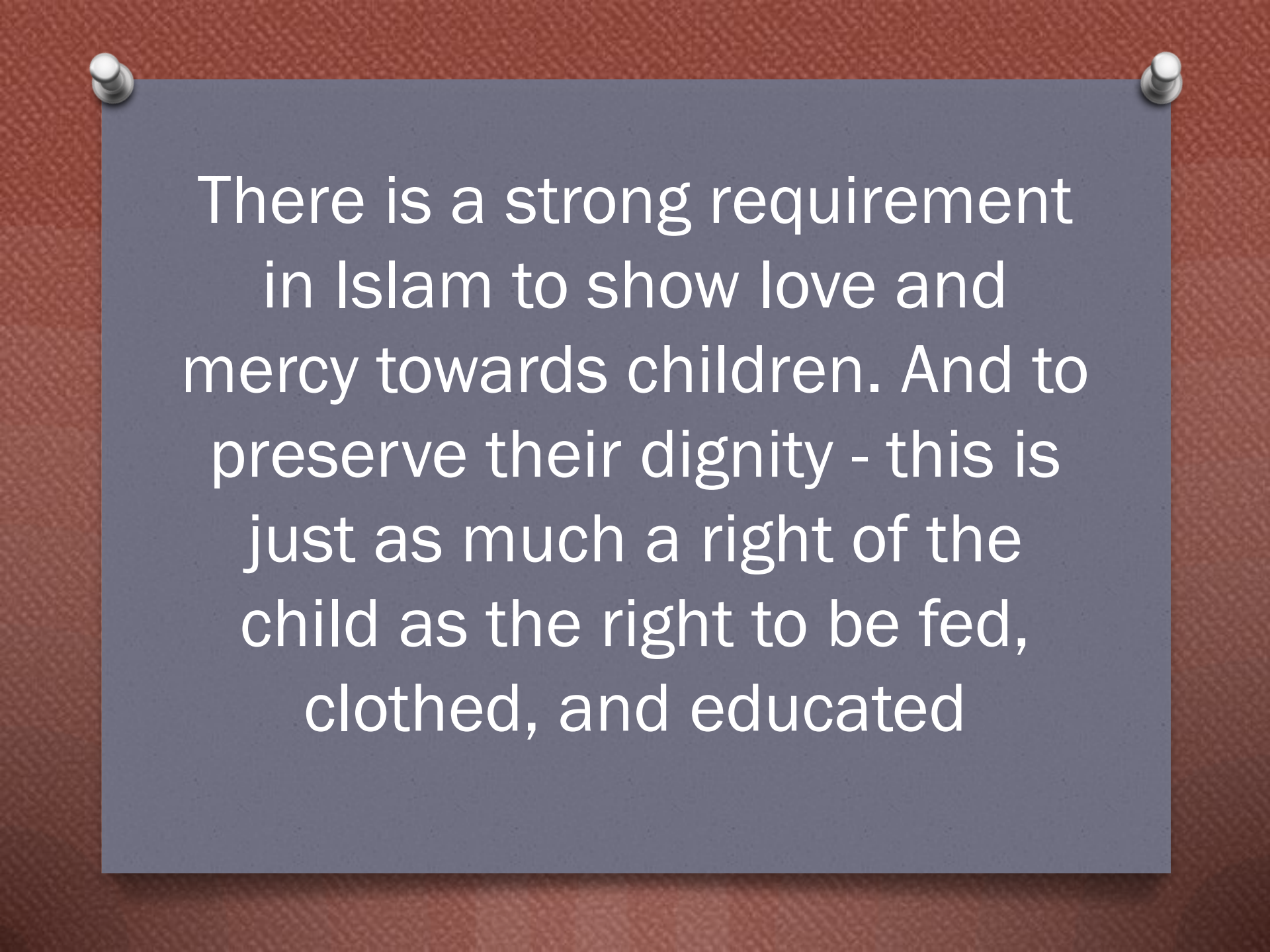
- o Be responsible for their own behavior
- o Avoid conduct which will raise concern
- o Work in an open and transparent way
- o Discuss concerns and ask for advice from a member of SLT
- o Apply the same professional standards to all regardless culture, disability, gender, language, race, and / or religion

What Next?

- o Read the school's Child Protection Policy and supporting documents and discuss any queries
- o CPOs will provide SLT, HODs, Supervisors, Clinic and Reception etc with copies of 'Record of Concern' Form
- o All staff members are required to sign for their attendance at today's training

As Professionals...

- o If you have a concern of abuse, **by law it is your duty to report it** for the sake of the child involved
- o Children with disabilities are found to be 3 to 4 times more likely to experience abuse or neglect than children without disability .
- o Professionals should be aware that children with disabilities often have multiple carers and this increases the risk of abuse



There is a strong requirement in Islam to show love and mercy towards children. And to preserve their dignity - this is just as much a right of the child as the right to be fed, clothed, and educated

www.moi-cpc.ae

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying www.moi-cpc.ae/en/Default.aspx. The page header includes the United Arab Emirates Ministry of Interior logo on the left, navigation links for 'عربي | Sitemap | FAQ' in the center, and a 'REPORT ABUSE' button on the right. Below the header is a dark blue navigation bar with links for HOME, ABOUT US, CHILD PROTECTION DIMENSIONS, EDUCATIONAL MESSAGES, MEDIA, and CONTACT US. The main content area features a colorful illustration of a city skyline with a large tree and silhouettes of children playing. A text box on the right contains the following text:

Welcome to Ministry of Interior Child Protection Centre

MOI Child Protection Centre has been established in UAE to undertake the role of developing, implementing and customizing the initiatives, processes aiming at providing safety, security and protection for all children living at UAE or even those coming as visitors.

At the bottom of the browser window, the Windows taskbar is visible, showing the system clock at 2:59 PM on 2/14/2017.



Child Protection
Hotline

116 111