



## RADIANT INDIAN SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND BOYS,

### SHARJAH

## **CYBERBULLYING PREVENTION AND RESPONSE POLICY**

### **1. Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to ensure a **safe, respectful, and supportive digital environment** for all members of the school community. The school maintains a **zero-tolerance stance toward cyberbullying** and is committed to preventing, identifying, and responding promptly to any form of online harassment or digital misconduct.

### **2. Scope**

This policy applies to **all students, staff members, and members of the school community** when using:

- School digital devices and networks
- Personal digital devices on school premises
- Online platforms related to school activities
- Social media or digital communication that impacts the school environment

### **3. Definition of Cyberbullying**

Cyberbullying refers to the **use of digital technology to harass, threaten, intimidate, embarrass, or harm another individual**. This may occur through social media platforms, messaging applications, emails, gaming platforms, or any other online communication tools.

### **4. Forms of Cyberbullying**

Cyberbullying may include, but is not limited to:

- Sending **threatening, abusive, or insulting messages**
- Posting or sharing **false, harmful, or humiliating information** about someone online
- **Spreading rumors or gossip** through digital platforms
- **Sharing private images, videos, or personal information** without consent
- Creating **fake accounts or impersonating someone** online
- Deliberately **excluding individuals from online groups or activities** to cause harm

### **5. Expected Standards of Behavior**

All members of the school community are expected to:

- Demonstrate **respectful and responsible digital communication**
- Protect the **privacy and dignity of others**
- Report any form of cyberbullying immediately
- Follow school policies related to **digital citizenship and online safety**

## 6. Reporting Cyberbullying

Students or staff who experience or witness cyberbullying should report the incident immediately to:

- A teacher
- School counselor
- School administration
- Designated safeguarding or wellbeing officer

Reports should include **relevant evidence** such as screenshots, messages, or links where possible.

## 7. Investigation Procedures

All reported incidents will be **investigated promptly and confidentially** by the school administration. The investigation may include:

- Review of digital evidence
- Interviews with involved individuals
- Consultation with parents or guardians when necessary

## 8. Disciplinary Action

Cyberbullying is considered a **serious violation of school conduct policies**. Depending on the severity of the incident, disciplinary measures may include:

- Formal warning and counseling
- Temporary suspension of digital device privileges
- Parent or guardian notification
- Behavioral sanctions or disciplinary action according to school regulations
- Referral to external authorities if required by law

## 9. Support for Victims

The school will provide **appropriate support and guidance** to individuals affected by cyberbullying, including counseling and safeguarding measures to ensure their wellbeing.

#### **10. Education and Awareness**

The school will promote **digital citizenship, online safety, and respectful communication** through regular awareness programs, classroom discussions, and workshops for students and staff.

#### **11. Policy Compliance**

All students and staff must comply with this policy. Any violation will be addressed in accordance with **school disciplinary procedures and safeguarding protocols**.