Twenty-four Essential Questions for Schools

1. To what extent can the school be assured that it is only employing people of good character?
   *Does the country/state have a system for checking employees?*

2. Does the school take measures to ensure that all helpers, volunteers and contract workers are people of good character?

3. How does the school ensure that all faculty and staff are aware of the school’s child protection policies and practices?

4. Do faculty and staff know how to identify possible signs of child abuse and do they know what to do if they have suspicions of maltreatment or if a student discloses abuse?

5. To what extent is the school leadership cognizant of all policies and procedures related to child protection?

6. What training do school leaders receive on child protection?

7. Who has overall or delegated responsibility for ensuring the safety of students?

8. Who has overall responsibility for ensuring that child protection procedures are followed in line with approved school policies?

9. What training is available to staff and faculty to ensure that they are familiar with issues related to child protection?

10. What does the school mean by the term child abuse?

11. Do the school’s operational procedures support and encourage good practice leading to enhanced child protection?

12. To what extent and how often are child protection policies and procedures reviewed?

13. What external support / organisations can a school call upon for support with child protection issues?

14. Is the school aware of, and complies with, all legal and statutory requirements / obligations within the country in which it operates?

15. What security and protection measures are taken by the school to ensure the safety of students in school?

16. Does the school have external expert advice about threat levels, for example from an embassy or the police? Can they call on the support of the police security services?

17. To what extent does child protection education form part of the written curriculum?

18. Are students aware of what to do if they feel uncomfortable or have concerns about mistreatment or abuse?

19. Are there national child protection agencies/policies and support agencies. Does the school comply and have good working relations with child protection agencies- does the school have named contacts.

20. Does the school make it clear on its web site that it complies with the law of the country regarding child protection and policy, also about attendance at school?

21. What measures are taken by the school to ensure the safety and protection of boarding students?

22. What measures are taken by the school to ensure the safety and protection of students in homestay accommodation?

23. Are school facilities designed and operated in a way that supports good child protection procedures?

24. Does the school have formal learning programs and promote about e-safety?