

# SIS POLICY MANUAL

## 431: SAFEGUARDING & CHILD PROTECTI

POLICY LINK(S)	Updated	NEXT REVIEW
<a href="#">405 Admissions</a> <a href="#">412 Inclusion</a> <a href="#">450 Personal Data Protection</a> Code of Conduct (Faculty Handbook)	June 2022	May 2023

### Policy Statement

Shekou International School endorses the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The host country, China, is a signatory and a safe haven for our school community.

Shekou International School's mission includes ensuring all students' safety, security, and well-being while they are members of the school community. Additionally, Shekou International School promotes the protection of its students from harm perpetrated by peers, family members, or others in the community.

Safeguarding is paramount as the well-being of each student is essential to their ability to access the opportunities an SIS education provides. Child abuse and neglect are violations of a child's human rights and are obstacles to their education and physical, emotional, social, and spiritual development. Schools fill a special institutional role in society as protectors of children and must ensure that all children in their care are afforded a safe and secure environment to thrive.

### Rationale / School Safety Priority

Shekou International School will distribute this policy annually to all parents and applicants, will communicate this policy annually to students, will provide annual training for all staff, and will make every effort to implement organisational practices to ensure the safety of our students. If a staff member is reported as an alleged offender, Shekou International School will conduct a full investigation following a carefully designed course of due process.

Educators, having the opportunity to observe and interact with children over time, are uniquely positioned to identify children who need support and protection. Chinese law stipulates those educational institutions are mandatory reporters when suspected abuse or domestic violence occurs. Shekou International School educators have a professional and ethical obligation to identify students who need support and to take steps to ensure that the child and family avail themselves of the services required to remedy situations that constitute harm to their child(ren).

## **Principles**

All SIS staff and adults working with SIS students are responsible for ensuring our students' safety, security, and wellbeing.

All SIS staff will be made aware of their responsibilities to safeguarding and child protection and procedures. All SIS staff must report child protection concerns in accordance with SIS protocols.

All students will be made aware of their rights as SIS students, the services & supports provided to them by SIS, and their responsibilities as students to ensure the safety, security, and wellbeing of others while SIS students.

All family members of SIS students will be made aware of their rights, responsibilities, and the services provided to them by SIS to ensure the safety, security, and wellbeing of our students.