

PROCEDURE: SOCIAL EMOTIONAL SUPPORT AT FIS – Parents' Consent

1. Introduction:

1.1 The French International School of Hong Kong (FIS) offers a competent and available team to provide personalized support to students. On each campus, health assistants, school psychologists, and counselors work closely with the educational, pedagogical, and leadership teams and families to provide individualized support to students.

1.2 It is important to note that the roles and responsibilities of each member of the support team are adapted based on the needs and age of the students. This tailored approach aims to provide optimal support that promotes the success of each student.

2. Definition of Social Emotional Support Services:

2.1 Throughout this procedure, the term "counseling services" is used to refer to the services provided to students by the school counselors and school psychologist. These services include counseling sessions to address students' social, emotional, and mental health needs. This may involve providing support for issues such as stress, anxiety, peer relationships and other personal concerns. The goal is to help students develop coping strategies, improve self-awareness and regulation, and enhance their overall well-being.

3. Purpose of the procedure:

3.1 The purpose of this procedure is to ensure that parents and legal guardians (both referred to as "parents" hereafter) are informed about the counseling services provided at FIS and to clarify the processes relating to consent for their child(ren) to access these services. The procedure outlines the collaboration between the support team, educational staff, school leadership, and families to address students' specific needs.

4. Consent for Counseling Services:

4.1 Parents are automatically deemed to have consented to their child(ren) accessing and making use of the counseling services provided by FIS unless they provide written notification stating otherwise in accordance with paragraph 4.2 below.

4.2 To withhold consent for their child(ren) to utilize the counseling services, parents must clearly inform FIS in writing by sending an email to head_healthdepartment@g.lfis.edu.hk

5. Confidentiality and Parental Liability:

5.1 FIS recognizes the importance of confidentiality in certain situations, for example in cases of suspected parental abuse or when mature secondary-level students wish to keep counseling services confidential from their parents. In such instances, FIS will exercise professional judgment and consider factors such as the age, maturity, well-being, and security of the student in deciding whether or not to disclose the use of the counseling services to parents.

5.2 Parents agree not to hold FIS liable in any way and for any reason arising out of FIS's decision not to disclose the use of the counseling service by their child(ren).

6. Medical Referrals and Prescription:

6.1 The counseling service provided by FIS does not include medical referrals or prescriptions of any medical treatment or drugs.

6.2 If FIS deems that medical referrals, treatments or prescriptions are necessary, the parents will be informed unless there is an obligation to maintain confidentiality, for example, when a case needs to be referred to the Social Welfare Department.