POLICIES OF SAINT ANNE LANGUAGE CENTER

Child Protection Policy

Introduction

Saint Anne Language Center is fully aware of its responsibility for the protection of children and is committed to complying with the legislation of the Republic of Bulgaria.

Key Definitions

Child: a person under the age of 18.

Child protection: all measures, actions and procedures for protecting students from the risk of injury or harm while they are in the care of the center during the designated hours.

Lesson time: the time during which the student is supervised by the center, including:

- time in the classroom
- extracurricular activities

Forms of Abuse

1. Physical abuse

Deliberately causing physical harm, or failing to prevent it, including:

- hitting, shaking, throwing
- burning, suffocating
- giving medication without a prescription

2. Corporal punishment

Physical punishment by an adult (teacher, parent, etc.) – regarded as a form of physical abuse.

3. Emotional abuse

Prolonged psychological pressure that harms the child's development, for example:

- making the child feel worthless
- threats, fear, humiliation
- emotional manipulation

4. Sexual abuse and exploitation

Includes:

- coercion into sexual activity
- inappropriate physical contact
- exposure to pornographic content
- sexual innuendo or behaviour

5. Bullying

Repeated aggressive behaviour involving an imbalance of power:

- physical (hitting)
- verbal (insults)
- social (exclusion)
- cyberbullying

6. Neglect

Persistent failure to meet basic needs:

- food, clothing, shelter
- health care
- education
- hygiene
- safety

Our Commitment

1. Legal obligations

Saint Anne Language Center:

- complies with all applicable child protection laws
- applies policies for the protection of students
- ensures that everyone involved understands the policy

2. Reporting risk

- Every member of staff is obliged to report suspected abuse
- Reporting may not be obstructed
- People who raise concerns are protected

In case of immediate danger:

- call 112 (police)
- report to the Child Protection Department

3. Core principles

- The protection of children is a priority
- Violence is unacceptable
- All children have equal rights

- Children must feel safe and heard
- Education includes self-protection skills

Distribution and Review

- The policy is publicly available
- It is reviewed at least every 5 years

Roles and Responsibilities

Staff:

- report concerns to the management of Saint Anne Language Center
- supervise students at all times

Parents:

- cooperate with the center and the teachers
- attend meetings
- share concerns

Conclusion

Saint Anne Language Center is committed to providing a safe, secure and supportive environment in which every child has the right to protection, respect and care.