



مدرستنا الثانوية الإنجليزية، الشارقة  
OUR OWN ENGLISH HIGH SCHOOL, SHARJAH  
A GEMS SCHOOL

**GEMS**  
EDUCATION

# **POLICY FOR A SAFE CHILD IN PUBLIC PLACES**

**DEVELOPED BY: Zahid Rehman( MSO )**

Implemented : April 2016

Reviewed : May 2019

Next Review : May 2020

Approved by: Ms. Asma Gilani, Principal & CEO



## **OOS POLICY FOR A SAFE CHILD IN PUBLIC PLACES**

<b>STOP</b>	<b>Children are naturally explorative, especially in new Places with new things.this makes it especially hard for parents as they need to be constantly vigilant to keep them safe.</b>
<b>STUDY</b>	<b>Read through the document with your child's primary care givers and discuss the hazards listed</b>
<b>ACT</b>	<b>Discuss these hazards with your child in a serious but in a non threatening manner in order to reduce your child's likelihood of getting injured or hurt.</b>

### **1. Car Parks**

Children are at a great risk of injury or death in car parks and parking areas. Not only children are short in stature and can't be seen by the drivers, they aren't fully developed cognitively in relation to evaluating risk.

<b>CAR PARKS</b>
Teach your children about road safety and make sure they understand that car parks are dangerous, just like the roads.
Ensure your child's play area and the area you park your car are separate. Many children have been killed by parent hitting their child while reversing out of the drive way.
Make sure your child is neither in their car seat nor in their pram close To the car, not walking around the car when entering or exiting the vehicle. If you don't have a pram
Please slow down, speeding kills people even in the car parks
Watchout for pedestrians, kids can move very quickly in any direction !!
Set a good example for your child, in parking your vehicles. Please don't Park your vehicles in front of the main gates of the school or hospitals and go away, as someone may face emergency at anytime. Cars should not exceed speed over 10 km in car parks.

## 2. LIFTS AND ELEVATORS

AS LIFTS AND ELEVATORS HAVE MOVING PARTS THE CHILD CAN EASILY GET STUCK IN BETWEEN THEM

<b>LIFTS AND ELEVATORS</b>
Hold your child's hand while moving in or out of the elevators.
Lifts are heavy machineries, they can cause injuries and are not designed to be used by children without someone's supervision / presence.
Don't let your child run in and out of the lift, this is how they may get stuck in between the moving doors.
Don't put your hand inbetween moving shutters / doors, instead use 'door open' or 'door close' buttons. Watch your steps there may be difference in levels.
If doors don't open, please press alarm button and avoid extra efforts / force to open the doors.
Use the staircases in case of fire and follow the exit signs carefully.
Keep the entry and exit of the lift clear for others movement.
Don't stand very close to the doors especially with very loose clothes.

## 3. ESCALATORS

Approximately 2000 children mostly under the age of 5 are injured on the Escalators each year. And most of these injuries are due to falls; the rest Occurs when child's hands, legs or clothes get stuck in the moving parts of the escalators. Some wounds are very minor but entrapments injuries can crush child's limbs, even requiring amputations in some cases.

<b>ESCALATORS</b>
Hold your child's hands to guide him on and off the escalators.
Explain to your child that escalators are not playing equipments, and be extra vigilant with your child around escalators and do not let them go out of your site.
Instruct your child to stand still and face forward and not allowing them to sit on the escalators to avoid potential risk of their clothes or body parts getting stuck in the moving parts.
Make sure that you or your child don't lean over the rail, they could get their head or hair stuck between an overhung and fall over the Balustrade.
If you have got a stroller please use the elevator, if you must use the escalator, take the child in your arms. Someone else may help you hold The empty stroller.

Check your child's clothing. His / her shoelaces are properly tied before going on or off the escalators and don't let them drag their coat or scarf on the ground

In case of emergencies arising on the escalators, please press emergency stop button or shout for help to do so if you are not near to the stop button.

#### **4. STRANGER SAFETY**

Strangers can assist or harm your children, and it is important to not only teach them to stay close to you all the time, but also how to react when a stranger approaches them.

##### **STRANGER SAFETY**

Share and talk openly with your family even on uncomfortable issues.

Empower your child with honest and factual information about their bodies and let them know what is and what isn't appropriate touching.

Teach your child that their private areas are just for them and no-one should try to touch them

Most abuse and abduction cases are by someone that child knows – teach your child to say 'no' if they ever feel uncomfortable around them.

Never force a child to hug or kiss a relative. They need to understand that they shouldn't be forced to be affectionate and to trust their own feelings.

Accompany your child in the unknown trial rooms while shopping.

#### **5. FALLS**

##### **FALLS**

Supervise your child and hold their hands at all times when walking near fall hazards ( stairs, balustrades, handrails, balconies ). Hold their hands when walking up and down stairs.

When around balconies, ensure your child doesn't hang over the handrails as there is a greater chance of falling if they become overbalanced.

Teach your child to keep away from fall hazards.

Falling on the play ground is a very common cause of injury. Check to

Make sure that the surface under playground equipments are safe, soft and well maintained

Keep babies and young kids strapped in when using high stairs, high chairs or swings.

Teach your children about the danger of open drains they pose both fall and drawing hazards.

Make sure that your child wears protective gears while sports or adventures

Use prams, strollers or safety gears which are approved by international standards

When walking with your child be careful of spilled beverages or other liquids or wet floors to avoid potential risk of falls and injuries.

Be aware of open windows and constantly monitor your child play not allowing them to go close to the open windows.

Don't allow your child to lean over the handrails or balustrades.

Don't leave your child alone in the shopping cart.

In departmental stores, make sure your child doesn't accidentally pull heavy racks or materials or tries to reach very high shelves

## 6. DROWNING

Drowning is a possibility in public areas, particularly at fountains, ponds or open drains.

### DROWNING

Keep your child away from water bodies if they don't know swimming

Parents must take up a training of cpr and first aid in case of emergency

Never leave your unattended near water bodies. There is no room for compromise on this. There have been incidents of babies drowning in almost 1 inch water.

Keep your cell phones away and pay 100 % attention to your child when around water.

Empty all the buckets, bathtubs, wading pools, large containers immediately after use.

Keep toilet lids closed all the time.

