

Skagerak International School – Opplæringsloven §9a: The Student's Own School Environment

Skagerak International School, has a “zero tolerance” policy towards bullying. At Skagerak, bullying is defined as unwanted, aggressive behaviour among people that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behaviour is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time. Bullying includes actions such as making threats, spreading rumours, attacking someone physically or verbally, and excluding someone from a group on purpose.

Skagerak International School encourages everyone to be self-confident and caring towards each other, to help others who are not being treated fairly or find people to help. Our curriculum embodies the mission statement for the IBO which states:

‘The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.’

Student Responsibilities

You have the right to:

- Be respected by others and have their property respected
- Be treated and valued as an individual
- Be free from all forms of bullying
- Be part of a safe and productive school environment

You have a **responsibility** to:

- Be accountable for your own behaviour
- Show respect for others as well as their property
- Show respect for the teaching and learning in the classroom
- Be punctual and prepared for class time, meetings, appointments and deadlines
- Keep the school and its grounds clean and tidy
- Be respectful of the school and its property
- Be a positive ambassador for the school

Specific Staff Responsibilities

All Staff

- **Be aware** whether students have a positive and safe psychosocial environment
- **Intervene** in cases of bullying, violence, discrimination or harassment whenever possible
- **Report** to heads or principal in writing if you suspect or are aware of a student who does not have a positive and safe psychosocial environment

Principals/Deputy Principals/Contact Teachers

- **Investigate** any situations where students, parents or other relevant parties report problems with the psychosocial environment
- **Take action** in relation to all identified problems

The decision to take action lies with leadership.

Skagerak International School- 9(a) Process



9(A) The Student's Own School Environment

The following procedures are in place to identify and deal with any suspected or reported incidents of a compromised learning environment:

- Staff members report the behaviour to the contact teacher and administration in writing.
- The contact teacher and administration assesses whether the incident reflects a violation of 9(A)
- The principal is informed and meets with the individuals involved.
- They communicate with the people involved using the above strategies in the 9(A) process.
- If warranted, an action plan is activated by the principal documents the incident as described in the Skagerak 9(A) procedures.
- After a set period of time, the concerned parties meet to discuss any issues or concerns that might have arisen following the implemented behaviour plan.

Themes/Goals for the School Year		Date	Signed
Employee Routines	Management has reviewed the plan for a safe and good school environment.	August	
	All staff have received the plan and can locate it on the school server/platform.		
	All staff have been trained in Chapter 9A and are familiar with all procedures to be followed.		
	A common understanding of what constitutes offensive behaviour and bullying at school has been compiled. Students are included in the process.		
	All staff understand the duties involved and how they are to be exercised.		
	All staff have received document UDIR-3-2017: https://www.udir.no/regelverk-og-tilsyn/finn-regelverk/ettertema/Laringsmiljo/skolemiljo-udir-3-2017/		
Action Plan	The school has a plan for preventative measures against offensive behaviour and bullying (<i>comparable to the current Plan for a Safe and Good School Environment</i>).	June	
	The plan contains descriptions of specific goals and actions/what will happen.		
	The plan has an overview of the time period and responsibility for implementation.		
	The plan has a schedule for evaluation.		
	The plan states when and how the measures are to be addressed in the school's various forums for collaboration.		
	The plan states how all work is to be documented.		
Preventative Measures	Management and employees have made plans for how students and guardians can be involved in work with the school community, including channels such as Student Council, Parent Council, School Environmental Committee and the School Board.	June	

Preventative Measures	Specific plans have been made to prevent offensive behavior and bullying in all grade levels (Pastoral and Social Skills Programme)		
	Teachers have planned how the school's work against bullying will be presented and discussed at a parent's meeting at the start of the school year.		
	Management has planned the school-wide preventative measures against offensive behavior and bullying for the school year.		
	All students have been trained in their rights, duties and responsibilities. The contents of Chapter 9A, where students can find more information on how to proceed if they themselves or others feel violated or bullied, can be found here: http://barneombudet.no/for-voksne/voksne-hjelper-barn/skole/retten-til-et-godt-skolemiljo/		
Routines in individual cases	Management has reviewed and revised the school's plan for work on individual cases in accordance with the Education Act, Chapter 9A.	Ongoing	
	The school will create an action plan for inquiries into measures or when the school considers measures necessary.		
	Measures will be evaluated and documented.		