

Admissions Feedback & Complaints Policy

2022



DUBAI
BRITISH
SCHOOLS



AMERICAN
ACADEMY
FOR GIRLS



مدارس دبي
DUBAI SCHOOLS



GREENFIELD
INTERNATIONAL
School



UPTOWN
INTERNATIONAL
School



JUMEIRA
BACCALAUREATE
School



RAHA
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL



مدارس الشراكات التعليمية
CHARTER SCHOOLS

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Policy Title	Feedback & Complaints
Policy Number	CO - 005
Version	1
Effective Date	April 2022
Scheduled Review Date	2023
Supersedes	N/A

Prepared By	Name	Signature
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Approving committee	Name	Signature
CEO	Alan Williamson	<i>A. Williamson</i>
COO	Sam Truman	<i>Sam Truman</i>
HR Director	Talat Goldie	<i>Talat Goldie</i>

1. Rationale

Taaleem believes that students and parents are entitled to expect courteous, prompt and careful attention to their needs, views, opinions and wishes. We take any complaints or concerns that arise seriously, this could involve a student, a parent or a member of staff. We also welcome suggestions and feedback to improve our schools.

2. Aims

- To provide clear guidelines for all stakeholders
- To ensure a safe environment
- To promote an environment of trust

3. Policy Principles

Taaleem recognises and acknowledges the parental entitlement to complain or raise a grievance and will endeavour to work with parents in the best interest of the students in our care.

Taaleem culture is open and complaints will be received in a positive manner. If a parent is in doubt about whether or not to raise a concern, we would encourage them to contact the school, as they are there to help. We would ask, however, that together the school and parents present a united front in order to avoid any child receiving potentially confusing or conflicting messages. We intend to bring all concerns about the running of the school to a satisfactory conclusion for all parties involved, to ensure a good quality of service for students and parents, to provide the best practice whilst following legislation, to guarantee transparency through open communication with parents and staff alike, maintaining a good working relationship between everyone involved in the school. We will make every effort to resolve any issues within the school setting.

This policy may be used by anyone who has a concern, suggestion, compliment, feedback or complaint about any aspects of the school. In essence this will mean the parents and carers of the student, it may also include neighbours of the school or any other members of the local community.

Confidentiality is vital. All conversations and correspondence will be treated with discretion and respect. The subject of the communication including any personal information will only be shared between staff on a 'need to know' basis. Knowledge of such will be limited to the Principal and/or Head of School and those who may directly be involved. It is the school's policy that complaints made by parents will not have any adverse effect on their children in any way. In the event of some complaints it may be necessary to involve a third party, such as a Government authority and/or the police. Should this be deemed appropriate, the school will ensure the complainant is also aware of this referral at this time.

4. Procedure for making a complaint

Stage 1 – Informal Discussion

The vast majority of complaints can be dealt with informally. There are many occasions where concerns are resolved quickly without the need to submit a formal complaint. Indeed many concerns raised at this stage may not be classified as complaints.

Any party contacting the school may choose to contact the Principal directly of their own accord. In these cases it will be at the discretion of the Principal as to whether or not to direct them to the particular department who will handle the complaint. Otherwise, please see flow chart (**Appendix 1**) at the end which clearly explains who to complain to in the first instance.

All concerns at this stage must be resolved or moved to the next stage within the week of

the complaint. Most complaints should be resolved amicably and informally at this stage. If the individual is dissatisfied with the response they have been given and would like to take it further they should proceed to escalate the complaint to Stage 2.

Stage 2 – Formal Complaint

All complaints that reach stage 2 should be presented in writing in English and must be logged in the 'School's Complaints Folder'. This folder is to be made available to the Taaleem Executive Board and any KHDA inspectors.

At this stage, all communications between parties need to be carefully recorded and Monitored with the following information:

- The name of the complainant
- The date and time at which the complaint was made
- The details of the complaint
- How the complaint has been dealt with so far (include written evidence and dates of interviews)
- Results and conclusions so far
- Responses from the complainant

Informal discussion with the Principal

Before proceeding with a formal investigation the Principal/Head of School will meet with the individual and discuss their concerns and wishes. It may still be appropriate and satisfactory to reach an informal resolution at this stage. If not, the Principal/Head of school will proceed in accordance with the complaints policy and advise parents accordingly.

Submitting a Formal Complaint

- a) The complainant should use a Formal complaints form (appendix 2)
- b) The Principal/Head of School should formally acknowledge the complaint within 24hrs of receiving it and begin the investigation.
- c) The Principal/Head of school or complaints committee will need to investigate
 - The complaint and review all necessary documentation.
- d) If necessary the Principal/Head of School will interview witnesses and take statements from those involved. If the complaint involves a student, the student will also be questioned.
- e) When the investigation is complete, the Principal/Head of School or complaints committee will meet the parents to discuss the outcome within 10 working days of the acknowledgment.
- f) The opportunity to meet and discuss the outcome of the investigations with the complainant should be offered at a mutually convenient time.
- g) Minutes of the meeting should be recorded by a third party during the session and an agreed written record of the discussion should be shared afterwards. The minutes should record whether or not the complaint has been upheld, the reasons why and what action (if any) will be taken. All of the parties present at the meeting should sign the minutes and receive a copy.

A record of the written complaint from the parents and the summative points from the meeting shall be kept in the following files:

- a) The student's personal file if it is related to the child only.
- b) The academic staff's file that is with the Principal/Head of School if it is related to the faculty staff
- c) In the school staff files for all non-academic staff, school facilities, Admin, HR/accounts if appropriate
- d) In the school complaints file if it is related to the school in general

- e) In the file for the Principal that is with the CEO at Taaleem central office if the complaint is regarding the Principal

Records are retained for a period of 2 years.

Stage 3 – Referral to the CEO &/or Senior Executive Board at Central Office

In the event that the complainant remains dissatisfied with the outcome of the school's investigation, the matter may be referred to the CEO and/or Senior Executive Board at the Taaleem central office. The elected member of the Senior Executive Board or the CEO will request a full report from the Principal/Head of School along with all relevant documents. On the basis of these they may call individual members of staff for a briefing. The CEO or the elected member of the Senior Executive Board from central office will acknowledge receipt of the referral that the complaint is being reviewed and will ask if the parent wishes to add further details for consideration. A date will also be given by which the parent may expect a full response. The member of the Senior Executive Board may be able to offer a new approach which may satisfactorily conclude the matter for the parent. The response will be clear and detailed but if the parent remains dissatisfied the member of the Senior Executive Board will also offer a meeting. Attending would be as follows:

- A member of the Senior Executive Board
- The Principal/Head of School
- A relevant member of staff
- The parents

Note that if your complaint is about the Principal/Head of School you would follow the procedure of Stage 3 to make your complaint.

Stage 4 – Formal complaint to the KHDA

In the unlikely event that the school is unable to address an individual's concerns to their Satisfaction, the individual may wish to approach the regulator. Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA in Dubai) and Abu Dhabi Education Council (ADEK in Abu Dhabi) are the regulators and this option can be pursued.

Parents can approach KHDA or ADEK at any stage of the complaints procedure. To Follow are the contact details.

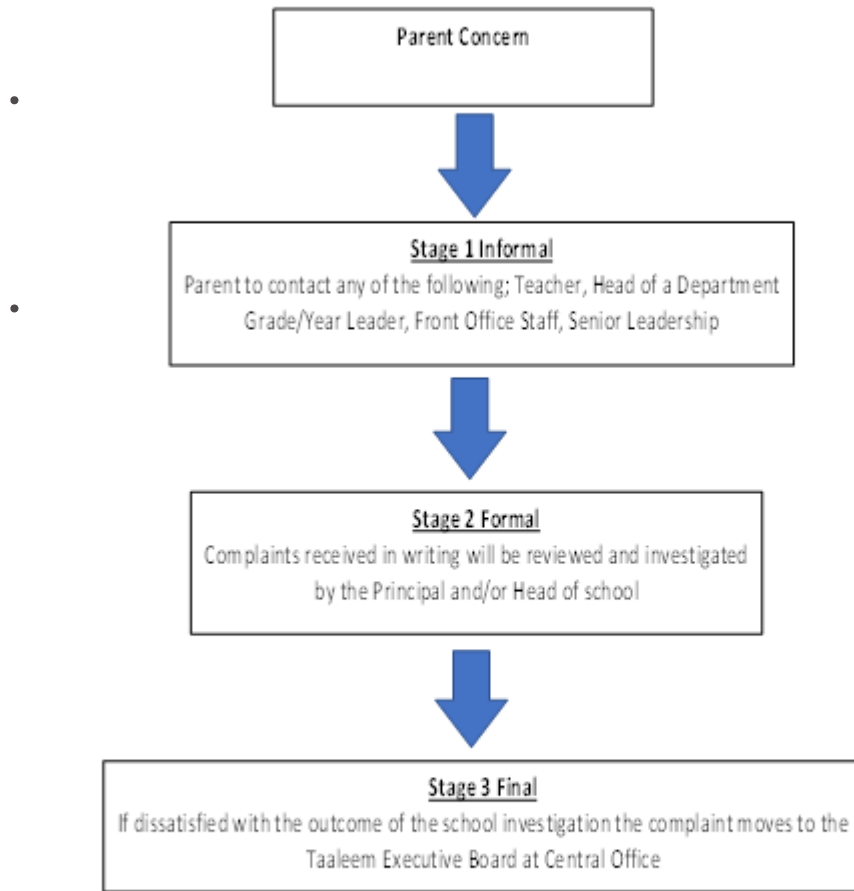
[Link here for ADEK](#)

ADEC HQ
PO Box 36005
Abu Dhabi
UAE
Tel: +97126150000

[Link here for KHDA](#)

KHDA
Block 8, Academic City
PO Box 500008
Dubai
UAE

Appendix 1. Please refer to the parent complaint flowchart



Appendix 2 – Formal Complaints Form

Your Name	
Child's Name	
Address	
Telephone Mobile	
Loan Amount Needed	

Details Of your Complaint	
Date & Time of Incident	
What action if any have you taken already? • •	
To whom did you speak to and report the incident and what was their response?	

What action do you think may resolve the problem at this point?	
Are you attaching any further evidence? If so please give details here	
• Signature	
• Date	

For official use

Date Received	
Date Acknowledgement sent & by whom	