



PREFERRED PRACTICES

Staff and Student Safety on K-12 Campuses

Ensuring the safety of staff and students is a top priority for all educational institutions. This document outlines essential areas of focus and best practices to help create a safe and secure environment on a school campus.

1. KEY AREAS OF FOCUS

- **Physical Security**
 - **Access Control:** Implement secure entry points with ID badges and visitor check-ins.
 - **Surveillance:** Use cameras to monitor key areas.
 - **Emergency Preparedness:** Conduct regular drills and trainings for fire, crisis lockdowns, and evacuation scenarios.
- **Cybersecurity**
 - **Data Protection:** Safeguard personal information with encryption and network security.
 - **Cyber Hygiene:** Educate staff and students on safe internet browsing practices and phishing awareness.
 - **Incident Response:** Develop a plan to address data breaches and cyberattacks.
- **Mental Health and Well-Being**
 - **Counseling Services:** Provide access to mental health professionals.
 - **Antibullying Programs:** Implement policies and programs to prevent bullying and harassment.
 - **Wellness Programs:** Promote physical and mental health through wellness initiatives.
 - **Community Connections and Clubs:** Create safe spaces for students to meet and discuss shared experiences.
- **General Premises Safety**
 - **Maintenance:** Regularly inspect and maintain facilities to prevent accidents.
 - **Transportation Safety:** Ensure school buses and other transportation methods are safe and drivers are well trained. Conduct motor vehicle record (MVR) checks regularly or enroll in an MVR monitoring program to ensure that your drivers are driving safely.
 - **Supervision:** Maintain adequate supervision during school hours and extracurricular activities.



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2. PREFERRED PRACTICES

- **Training and Education**
 - **Staff Training:** Regularly train staff on safety protocols and emergency procedures.
 - **Student Education:** Educate students on personal safety and emergency response.
 - **Culture of Safety:** Implement a culture of safety within your organization to create a risk-awareness mentality among staff and students. Encourage stakeholders to discuss safety and risk in all efforts or initiatives on campus.
- **Policy Development**
 - **Clear Policies:** Develop and enforce clear safety policies and procedures.
 - **Regular Reviews:** Periodically review and update safety policies to address new and emerging risks.
- **Community Involvement**
 - **Parental Engagement:** Involve parents in safety initiatives and keep them informed.
 - **Local Partnerships:** Collaborate with local law enforcement and emergency services.



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