Cyberbullying Policy – Al Salamat school

All staff at Al Salamat School Al Ain ensure that every child matters in the community

so that all pupils:

Stay healthy

Stay safe

Enjoy learning

Achieve economic well being

Make positive contributions

Cyberbullying may be defined as the use of electronic communication, particularly mobile phones and the

internet, to bully a person, typically by sending messages of an intimidating or threatening nature.

Children and adults may be reluctant to admit to being the victims of cyberbullying. It can take a number

of different forms like

1. Threats and intimidation

2. Harassment or 'cyber-stalking' (Example: repeatedly sending unwanted texts or instant messages),

3. Sexting (Example: sending and receiving sexually explicit messages, primarily between mobile

phones)

4. Unauthorized publication of private information/images and trolling (abusing the internet to

provoke or offend others online).

5. Face-to-face bullying, with technology providing the bully with another route to harass their target.

6. Chat room bullying involves sending menacing or upsetting responses to children when they are in

a virtual class room.

Cyberbullying and the Law:

Bullying is never acceptable and the school fully recognizes its duty to protect all of its members and to

provide a safe, healthy environment for everyone.

Use of Technology in School All staff and students of the school community are expected to take

responsibility for using technology positively.

Preventing Cyberbullying As with all forms of bullying the best way to deal with cyberbullying is to prevent

it happening in the first place. There is no single solution to the problem of cyberbullying but the school will do the minimum to impose a comprehensive and effective prevention strategy.

Parent expectations:

• Keep the computer or other electronic devices in a public place in the house. Periodically check on what your child is doing.

• Discuss the kinds of Internet activities your child enjoys.

• Be up front with your child that you will periodically investigate the files on the computer, the browser history files, and your child's public online activities.

• Search for your child's name online, look at his or her profiles and postings on teen community sites, review web pages or blogs.

• Tell your child that you may review his or her private communication activities if you have reason to believe you will find unsafe or irresponsible behavior.

• Watch out for secretive behavior as you approach your child when they are online, such as rapidly switching screens, changing passwords and for attempts to hide online behavior, such as an empty history file.

• Engage with them about their online experiences and specifically monitor for instances of cyberbullying.

Make sure they know that you are not judging them, but rather wanting to engage in dialogue with them

about their experiences.

All incidents should be reported to the Vice principal and Safe Guarding lead /supervisors of sections who

will then ensure the person being bullied is being supported, take responsibility for investigating and

managing the incident.

Investigation procedures will be followed in line with the school Anti Bullying Policy

Student expectations:

• If you are being bullied, remember bullying is never your fault. It can be stopped and it can usually be traced.

• Do not ignore the bullying. Tell someone you trust, such as a teacher or parent, or call an advice

line.

• Try to keep calm. If you are frightened, try to show it as little as possible. Do not get angry, it will only make the person bullying you more likely to continue.