



BULTUM ACADEMY

Student Suicide Prevention and Intervention Protocol

Adopted: 03/13/2024

Policy Statement:

Bultum Academy is committed to fostering a safe and supportive environment for all students. This includes recognizing and addressing concerns related to students experiencing suicidal thoughts or engaging in self-harm behaviors. The purpose of this protocol is to provide guidelines for identifying, responding to, and supporting students who may be at risk of suicide.

Definitions:

Suicidal Ideation: Thoughts or expressions related to self-harm, including suicide.

Self-Harm Behaviors: Deliberate actions causing injury or damage to oneself.

Protocol:

Identification:

- a. All school staff members are encouraged to be vigilant and observant of signs indicating possible suicidal ideation or self-harm behaviors.
- b. Signs may include but are not limited to changes in behavior, withdrawal from social activities, academic decline, or verbal expressions of hopelessness.

Reporting:

- a. If any staff member becomes aware of or suspects a student's suicidal ideation or self-harm, they must immediately report the concern to the designated point of contact, typically the school counselor or principal.

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Initial Response:

- a. The designated point of contact will initiate an immediate assessment of the situation, ensuring the safety and well-being of the student.
- b. The school counselor or mental health professional may be involved in the assessment process.

Parent/Guardian Communication:

- a. The parents or guardians of the student will be informed promptly about the concerns, and their collaboration will be sought in addressing the situation.
- b. Parents may be provided with information on available mental health resources and encouraged to seek professional assistance.

Referral to Mental Health Services:

- a. Students identified as at risk may be referred to mental health professionals for a comprehensive evaluation and appropriate intervention.

Documentation:

- a. All actions, assessments, and communications related to the student's well-being must be documented in a confidential manner, adhering to privacy laws.

Follow-Up and Support:

- a. Ongoing support will be provided to the student, involving counseling services, peer support, and monitoring of their well-being.

Training:

- a. School staff will receive regular training on identifying signs of suicidal ideation and self-harm, as well as the proper procedures for reporting and responding.

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Confidentiality:

a. Information related to a student's mental health will be handled with the utmost confidentiality, adhering to state and federal privacy laws.

Review and Revision:

a. This protocol will be reviewed periodically to ensure its effectiveness and updated as necessary.

This protocol is intended to guide Bultum Academy staff in responding to situations involving student suicidal ideation or self-harm. All staff members are expected to familiarize themselves with this protocol and actively participate in creating a safe and supportive school environment.

Legal References:

Minnesota Statutes § 121A.091 - School Health Services: Mandates that schools must have a plan to provide for the health and safety of students during the school day.

Minnesota Statutes § 245.4871-245.4889 - Children's Mental Health Act: Emphasizes the importance of early identification and treatment of mental health issues in children.

Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) Guidelines on Student Mental Health and Suicide Prevention: Provides recommended practices for schools to identify and support students experiencing mental health challenges.

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Student Suicide Screener/Intake Form

Date:

Student Information:

Student's Full Name: _____ *Date of Birth:* _____ *Gender:* _____ *Grade:* _____

Emergency Contact:

Name: _____ *Relationship:* _____ *Phone Number:* _____

Screening Questions:

Have you ever had thoughts of harming yourself or ending your life? Yes / No

Have you ever attempted suicide in the past? Yes / No

Have you made any specific plans to harm yourself recently? Yes / No

Have you engaged in any self-harming behaviors (e.g., cutting, burning) recently? Yes / No

Are you currently experiencing extreme feelings of hopelessness or worthlessness? Yes / No

Have you been struggling with depression or other mental health concerns? Yes / No

Are you experiencing any major life stressors (e.g., family issues, academic pressures)? Yes / No

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