

Student Safety and Wellbeing Policy

Purpose

This policy aims to establish guidelines and procedures for promoting and maintaining the wellbeing and safety of all students and other members of the ICAT community.

Scope

This policy applies to all activities, programs, and facilities provided or managed by ICAT. It encompasses physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing, as well as the prevention of accidents, injuries, and harmful incidents.

Related Policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- Student Code of Conduct Policy
- Access and Equity Policy
- Student Handbook

Definition

Item	Definition
Wellbeing	A state or condition wherein a person realises his/her potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and harmoniously, and is able to contribute to his/her community.
Safety	A condition of being protected from or unlikely to cause danger, risk, or injury (physical and/or emotional)
Code of Conduct	An agreement on rules of behaviour for the members of that group/organisation.

Principles

1. Institutional Responsibility
 - a. ICAT is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment that fosters wellbeing and safety.
 - b. The institution shall allocate necessary resources, establish protocols, and appoint responsible individuals to ensure the implementation and enforcement of this policy.

2. Individual Responsibility
 1. All members of the ICAT community have a shared responsibility to contribute to the wellbeing and safety of themselves and others.
 2. This includes complying with safety protocols, reporting concerns, and actively participating in educational programs and initiatives related to wellbeing and safety.
3. Supportive Environment
 1. ICAT shall strive to create a supportive and inclusive environment that promotes positive mental health and wellbeing.
 2. This includes fostering a culture of respect, empathy, and understanding and providing access to support services and resources.
4. Mental Health Resources
 1. ICAT shall provide access to mental health resources, including counselling services, workshops, and educational materials, to support the wellbeing of students.
 2. These resources shall be confidential, accessible, and delivered by qualified professionals.
5. Awareness and Education
 1. ICAT shall conduct awareness campaigns and educational programs to increase understanding of mental health issues, reduce stigma, and promote self-care and healthy coping strategies.
6. Safety Measures
 1. ICAT shall implement appropriate safety measures to prevent accidents, injuries, and incidents within its facilities.
 2. This includes maintaining a safe and well-maintained physical environment, conducting regular safety inspections, and adhering to relevant safety standards and regulations.
7. Emergency Preparedness
 1. ICAT shall develop and maintain emergency response plans, including evacuation procedures, communication protocols, and training programs.
 2. These plans shall be regularly reviewed, tested, and updated to ensure their effectiveness.
8. Reporting and Response
 1. All members of the ICAT community are encouraged to promptly report any safety concerns, hazards, or incidents to the designated authorities.
 2. ICAT shall respond to reports promptly and appropriately, investigate incidents, and take corrective actions as necessary.

9. Wellbeing and Safety of Vulnerable Populations

1. Protection of Minors ICAT shall implement policies and procedures to ensure the protection and safety of minors participating in ICAT programs or activities. This includes appropriate background checks for employees and volunteers, clear guidelines for interactions with minors, and reporting mechanisms for suspected abuse or neglect.

10. Inclusivity and Accessibility

1. ICAT shall strive to create an inclusive and accessible environment that accommodates the diverse needs of its community members.
2. This includes providing reasonable accommodations and or adjustments, accessibility features, and support services to individuals with disabilities or special requirements.

Change and Version Control

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