Staff Development Policy

Empowerment International School Sulaymaniyah, Kurdistan Region of Iraq



1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish a framework for the continuous professional development (CPD) of all staff at Empowerment International School. This policy ensures that staff members have access to high-quality training, mentoring, and growth opportunities to enhance their skills, improve teaching standards, and contribute to the school's mission of providing excellence in education.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all teaching and non-teaching staff, including administrators, support staff, and leadership personnel at Empowerment International School.

3. Objectives

- To support the professional growth of all staff members.
- To improve teaching and learning outcomes through targeted training.
- To foster a culture of lifelong learning and collaboration.
- To align staff development with the school's strategic goals and educational standards.
- To ensure compliance with local and international educational requirements.

4. Principles

- Equity & Inclusion: All staff members will have access to professional development opportunities.
- **Relevance:** Training will align with individual, departmental, and school-wide needs.
- Continuous Improvement: Staff development is an ongoing process, not a one-time event.

- **Collaboration:** Staff are encouraged to share knowledge and best practices.
- Accountability: Staff and school leadership share responsibility for professional growth.

5. Professional Development Opportunities

A. Mandatory Training

- **Induction Program:** New staff will undergo orientation covering school policies, curriculum, and culture.
- Child Protection & Safeguarding: Annual training on student welfare and safety.
- First Aid & Emergency Procedures: Basic training for all staff.

B. Voluntary & Career-Enhancing Training

- Workshops & Seminars: On pedagogy, technology integration, classroom management, etc.
- Higher Education Support: Financial or logistical assistance for further studies (subject to approval).
- Peer Observations & Mentoring: Structured feedback and coaching among staff.
- Online Courses & Certifications: Access to platforms like Coursera, EdX, or local providers.
- Conferences & Networking: Opportunities to attend local and international education events.

C. Leadership Development

- Management Training: For current and aspiring leaders.
- **Succession Planning:** Identifying and preparing future leaders within the school.

6. Responsibilities

A. School Leadership

Allocate budget for staff development.

- Identify key training needs through performance reviews.
- Monitor and evaluate the impact of professional development.

B. Staff Members

- Actively participate in relevant training.
- Apply new skills in their roles.
- Provide feedback on training effectiveness.

C. Human Resources (HR) Department

- Maintain records of staff training.
- Facilitate access to professional development resources.

7. Funding & Support

- The school will allocate an annual budget for staff development.
- Partial or full sponsorship may be provided for approved courses.
- Staff may apply for funding with justification of relevance to their role.

8. Monitoring & Evaluation

- Feedback Surveys: After each training session.
- **Performance Reviews:** Assessing the application of new skills.
- Impact on Student Outcomes: Tracking improvements in teaching quality.

9. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed every two years to ensure its effectiveness and relevance.

10. Approval & Implementation

This policy has been approved by the School Board and is effective immediately.

Date of Approval: [19/04/2025] **Principal name and signature:**