



6 TIPS FOR CREATING A SAFE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

Plan for a safe and successful school year by taking a holistic approach to school security.

In addition to the academic and administrative complexities that schools must deal with, in today's climate there are a growing number of security challenges for educational institutions and students. Here are several key areas to consider to create and sustain a safe learning environment throughout the school year.



BULLYING AND CYBERBULLYING

Bullying can not only impact students' physical and emotional security but their social and academic success, too. Talk about bullying openly and ensure students are exposed to safe and positive environments in and out of school. Leverage global and national anti-bullying campaigns and implement your own awareness initiatives.



CYBERSECURITY AND ONLINE SAFETY

Students are spending more time online, increasing their potential for exposure to online safety risks and threats. Promote online safety practices, improve students' digital literacy and critical thinking skills, and implement cybersecurity best practices such as multi-factor authentication and strong passwords.



EMERGENCY PLANNING

Plan for all common natural disasters and undertake training and drills so there's understanding of protocols and responsibilities across teachers, students, and parents. Ensure student and staff contact information is up to date, as communication is often sent by SMS during and after a hurricane.



HEALTH AND WELLBEING

COVID-19 underscored the importance of preparing for sudden outbreaks of infectious diseases and other public health emergencies. Maintain a safe in-person learning environment with regular cleaning and sanitising, promote good hygiene and develop protocols for minimising or isolating inter-school outbreaks.



ROAD SAFETY

Educate students on the basics of road safety, from using sidewalks and pedestrian crossings to walking facing oncoming traffic. Ensure crossings are manned by a professional guard and have younger pedestrians walk with an adult. Encourage motorists to adhere to school zones and to share the road safely with school vehicles.



SAFETY INSPECTIONS, TRAINING AND MANAGEMENT

Regular review of and training on security threats such as fires, evacuations and active shooters are essential for minimising risk in an emergency. Maintain fire, alarm and PA systems. Install tracking devices on school bus fleets to monitor driver behaviour and create efficiencies, and ensure buses are serviced regularly.

To learn more about how The Security Centre can help with your school's security measures and practices, contact info@security.ky



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