

<b>Policy</b>	<b>Policy on Sexual Relationship between Students (including sexualised behaviour)</b>			
<b>Approval Date:</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup> September 2024</b>	<b>Next review:</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> September 2025</b>	
<b>Review Cycle:</b>	<b>12 months</b>			
<b>Scope</b>	<b>Whole Group</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Boarding</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<b>International Primary</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>National Primary</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>International Secondary</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>National Secondary</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Ownership:</b>	<b>Campus Principal</b>	<b>Approved by:</b>	<b>Senior Leadership Team (SLT)</b>	

## 1. Introduction

The aim of this policy is to give guidance about the appropriateness of relationships and behaviour between students at Tenby Schools Ipoh.

The school encourages its students to treat each other with respect and to value friendships. Whilst it is mindful of contemporary attitudes, it upholds the view that sexual relationships should be within consensual, committed, adult relationships, even when students are aged 16 or over. The school strives to extend the same human rights of equality and fairness to all of its students regardless of gender or sexual orientation whilst maintaining appropriate safeguarding measures in a boarding environment.

## 2. Relationships

The school is aware of the challenges that deepening friendships may bring to young people and therefore it sets certain boundaries that must be maintained, irrespective of whether a relationship is heterosexual or same sex. These are

informed by the school's ethos and dictated by both its pastoral and its legal responsibilities.

Public displays of affection are not appropriate or acceptable within the school environment. Students must remain especially mindful of this in the environment of their boarding houses, in school buildings, in all other areas of the school grounds, in the local vicinity or when on school trips. This includes holding of hands, hugging and etc.

### **3. Safeguarding measures in a boarding environment**

Relationships, beyond friendships, are generally inappropriate when there is a significant age difference between those concerned. House parents will talk to students and may inform parents where they have concerns about a relationship.

It is school policy that, if possible, students who are under the age of consent will not have single or double rooms and that students who are more than one year apart will not share the same room, unless they are related.

Students of different ages within a boarding house will have access to showers at different times. It is expected that all students using communal shower facilities will respect the privacy of any other student using the same facility. All forms of electronic communication or recording devices are banned from all of the school's washing facilities or from being used in changing facilities. Any breach of the above or any other inappropriate behaviour will be considered a disciplinary matter.

Sexualised behaviour between students at Tenby Schools Ipoh are always inappropriate; in some cases, such relationships may also be illegal. Sexualised behaviour in other contexts, such as sexting, will also be treated as a very serious matter and may be considered as peer-to-peer bullying or even abuse. The school expects all members of its community to respect the wishes and feelings of others; any unwanted attention or breach of a student's privacy will not be condoned.

### **4. Consequences of inappropriate behaviour**

Students in breach of this policy are likely to be subject to disciplinary action under the school's Behaviour Code. If a student is believed to have taken part in inappropriate sexual activity, the Campus Principal will be informed immediately and he will inform parents at the earliest opportunity. Every incident will normally lead to expulsion.

Incidents that raise child protection or other legal concerns will be treated in accordance with the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection policies and may have to be referred to the local authorities, i.e. the police.

## **5. Support**

The school is committed to the health and safety of its community and will take action to safeguard the wellbeing of its students. The school is also committed to widening students' understanding about related health and social issues including STDs. A programme of education about both appropriate sexual relationships and sexual health takes place through the school's PSHE programme, the school's medical team or by guest speakers.

The school acknowledges the importance of its pastoral role in the welfare of young people and, through the general ethos of the school, will seek to persuade any student in need of support to come forward.