

Child Friendly Schools Standards *for* Kurdistan Region



2012

1 School Building

STANDARD

The building is clean and healthy

TARGETS

- All areas of the school building, such as playing yard, ground, rooms, ceilings, walls, doors and windows are clean.
- The roofs are clean and rain drains are open.
- No one throws rubbish on the ground.
- The school is far away from the garbage collection sites.
- There is an active committee looking after school hygiene and tidiness.

STANDARD

All children have access to the school building.

TARGETS

- The school is established in an accessible and secure place.
- Disabled children have access to all sections and departments in the school.

STANDARD

The school building provides the basic needs of learning.

TARGETS

- The school runs in single shift mode.
- The school is far from noise.
- Playgrounds are available in the school and of appropriate size (e.g. 2m² per student).
- The school has a green area.
- Separate latrines are available for boys and girls.
- The number of latrines available is in accordance with the number of students. (one toilet for every 25-30 students)
- The size of classrooms is based on the number of students. (1-1.5m² for a student in a classroom)

STANDARD

The school building protects children from the effects of weather and external or natural hazards.

TARGETS

- All parts of school building(s) such as foundations, walls, roofs, doors and windows are strong and suitable. They do not pose any risk to the life of children.
- There is natural light in all parts of the school building (except basements) and the humidity is kept to a comfortable level.
- There is a simple and see-through fence around school premises.
- There is an active committee looking after repair and maintenance of the school building.

2 School Management

STANDARD

The school principal, in collaboration with teachers, students and parents, and in coordination with educational supervisor, endeavors to improve the school.

TARGETS

- The school principal is trained (oriented / instructed) on management and leadership.
- A work plan has been prepared for school development by the school principal, in consultation with teachers, students and their parents.
- The roles of the school principal, teachers, students and their parents have been clearly defined in the school development work plan.
- The school development work plan is implemented.
- Capacity development of teachers as per their needs is part of the school development work plan.
- Teachers respect the school principal and trust managerial decisions.
- Students love and respect the school principal.
- The school principal along with the school staff, students and teachers participates in the teamwork for school development.
- All school records are kept up-to-date and are accessible.
- Minutes of administrative meetings are recorded and are available.
- All participants are given opportunities to have active roles in decision making during the meetings.
- A Parents-Teachers Association (PTA) is established and actively participates in the school management and the planning and implementation of development plans.

3 School Budget

STANDARD

There is a special budget for school improvement along with a transparent system for expending the budget.

TARGETS

- A special budget is available for school improvement.
- The sources and amounts of the budget are clear and transparent.
- There are special and clear instructions for budget utilization.
- There is a special committee supervising budget utilization.
- Clear and transparent records are kept for budget utilization.
- A list of school needs, along with cost estimates for each item, is maintained and regularly updated.

4**Parents-Teachers Association /
Community Involvement****STANDARD**

There is an active Parents-Teachers Association (PTA) that is involved in solving school problems and ensures basic needs are fulfilled.

TARGETS

- PTA members are drawn from different sections of the community.
- PTA establishment process and activities are documented.
- Minutes of PTA meetings are properly recorded.
- PTA activities are visible.
- PTA members pay visits to the homes of students to discuss with the concerned parents if their children are facing any issues and problems.
- PTAs help in solving the problems facing children, teachers, school management and staff, and parents.

6**Water and Sanitation****STANDARD**

There is a hygienic and healthy system for water and sanitation.

TARGETS

- There is a sustainable and safe source of drinking water in the school. (Potability of water source is proved through laboratory test report).
- The water tanks and distribution networks are clean and hygienic.
- The latrines are working.
- The water basins are working.
- The latrines and their surroundings are cleaned on a daily basis.
- The children have been trained (oriented) on keeping the latrines and water basins clean.
- There is a committee for school hygiene.
- The school hygiene committee closely monitors the cleanliness of the latrines and water basins.
- The school administration provides required materials and equipment for cleaning.

5**Active Learning / Capacity
Building of Teachers****STANDARD**

Teachers implement active learning methods in child-centered classrooms in which children enjoy learning.

TARGETS

- The teachers have been trained (oriented/guided) on effective learning methodologies.
- Teachers encourage students to attempt self-learning.
- The teachers ask questions to encourage brainstorming and wider participation of students.
- The teachers do not verbally abuse or call the children names.
- Teachers give opportunities and encourage all students to participate without discrimination.
- Teachers manage and control classrooms effectively.
- The teachers help and enable students to solve their problems themselves.
- The teachers link the curriculum to daily life through non-classroom activities.
- The students have active roles in the classroom.
- The teachers are facilitators in the classroom.
- The necessary educational materials are available in the classroom.
- Promotion rate by grade is increasing.
- The students enjoy learning.

7**Learning Environment / Violence / Students
Interrelations / Sports and Arts activities / Drop-out****STANDARD**

There is a safe and tolerant environment that is free of violence and drop-outs with focus on sports, arts and non-classroom activities.

TARGETS

- The school is free of violence against any child.
- No child drops out of school.
- Student's problems are followed-up and resolved.
- There is a school library and the students are benefiting from it.
- A sciences laboratory is available and is used.
- A computer laboratory is available and is used.
- Various types of non-classroom activities are held on regular basis.
- Various kinds of sports activities are held frequently and documented.
- Various types of arts activities are held frequently and documented.

8

Curriculum and Educational Aids / Life Skills

STANDARD

The education curriculum is developed based on the requirements of individuals, community and labor market, and takes into consideration gender aspects.

TARGETS

- The whole education curriculum is gender sensitive.
- The education curriculum promotes peace.
- The content of curriculum is reflective of human rights and child rights.

STANDARD

The curriculum is implemented through new teaching aids and children are trained on life skills.

TARGETS

- The educational aids are available and in use.
- The education curriculum focuses on the child's personality and life skills.
- The textbooks are printed in color.

9

School Feeding

STANDARD

Children can obtain essential, suitable and healthy food within the school premises.

TARGETS

- There is a shop available on the school premises.
- The shop is well-arranged and clean.
- The shop sells hygienically prepared and healthy food items. All children have opportunity to buy necessary food items from the shop.
- The shop supervision and monitoring committee is active and regularly reports on the operation of school canteen.

What is a STANDARD ?

A standard is the level which has to be reached for achieving a goal. The standards are developed by experts taking into consideration visions and goals of the concerned sector. Clear and necessary instructions have to be made for enforcing the standards. The standards are essential tools for evaluation.

What are TARGETS ?

A target is a level that should be reached to make sure standards are achieved.

10

Inclusiveness (Gender) and participation of disabled children

STANDARD

All children are enrolled and continue their education without any discrimination based on gender, disability, religion, ethnicity and creed.

TARGETS

- All children are enrolled in the school without any discrimination (excluding the condition of age which is established according to ministry instructions).
- Teachers believe in children's capacities and have confidence that individual differences do not stop the children's learning process.
- Teachers have been trained (oriented) on how to deal with disabled children.
- The school is free of any form of gender-based discrimination, verbal or otherwise.
- The teachers do not impose their political, religious and ethnic opinions on the children.
- Teachers are mindful and cautious when giving examples, and they never hurt children's feeling.

