

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT ON RELIGION

At Dresden International School, we are committed to creating an environment grounded in our community values of open-mindedness, compassion, commitment, and integrity. This means fostering an inclusive school where every member of our community is treated with respect and dignity.

We recognize the importance of our beliefs in developing our identities and giving meaning to our lives. This also includes non-religious beliefs and belief systems. We firmly believe in the principles of religious freedom and anti-discrimination, and we are dedicated to upholding these values in our school community. The German constitution as well as European law affirm that our beliefs shape our perception of the world, and that harm occurs when these beliefs are denied through discrimination. The General Equal Treatment Act (German abbreviation: AGG) prohibits discrimination based on a specific belief system. As an international school, the AGG applies to all members of our school community. Freedom of thought and religion is a fundamental human right.

Our Commitment:

- ✓ **Equal Treatment:** We embrace and value the diverse belief systems that exist within our school community and each member is treated with respect and dignity.
- ✓ **Freedom of Expression:** We respect and support the right to freedom of religion, or lack thereof, which includes the freedom to practice, express, and share one's beliefs without fear of prejudice or discrimination. This includes the wearing of religious clothing or symbols.
- ✓ **Identity-Centered Curriculum:** We intentionally develop a curriculum that acknowledges, affirms and celebrates the diverse beliefs, traditions, and practices of our school community, fostering a culture of intercultural understanding and respect.
- ✓ **Accommodations:** We are committed to providing reasonable accommodations that enable individuals to practice their religious beliefs without interference to their educational experience.
- ✓ **Anti-Bullying:** Bullying, harassment, and/or discrimination based on religion, or lack thereof, do not reflect our community values and will not be tolerated in any form. This includes all forms of communication using hate symbols. Appropriate actions will be taken against individuals who engage in such conduct.
- ✓ **Community Engagement:** We actively encourage deep listening, dialogue and reflection about various religious perspectives, promoting mutual understanding and respect amongst our community. We provide opportunities for the community to learn about different beliefs and cultural perspectives.
- ✓ **Safeguarding and Support:** Anyone who experiences or witnesses discrimination based on belief is encouraged to report it to a member of the Leadership Team. We have a strong support system in place to address concerns in a confidential and responsive manner.

Creating an inclusive school is a collective effort, and we recognize that this is an ongoing process. We will engage in conversations and learning with our community, including students, parents, and staff, to ensure that our commitment to religious freedom and anti-discrimination is upheld. In doing so, we aim to prepare our students for a complex and interconnected world, where respect and dignity for all are fundamental values.

27.10.2023