

Parent Collaboration Guidelines for Student Safety Plans

Purpose:

This handout provides parents and guardians with essential guidelines for collaborating with schools in the development and implementation of **Student Safety Plans**. Active parent involvement helps ensure student success, promotes a safe learning environment, and strengthens communication between families and school staff.

1. Understanding the Student Safety Plan

A **Student Safety Plan** is a structured approach to supporting students who may pose a risk to themselves or others. It includes behavioral expectations, supervision strategies, and intervention measures to promote safety and success.

Why is this plan necessary?

- To ensure appropriate support and prevent crisis situations.
- To address behavioral concerns in a structured and proactive manner.
- To maintain a safe learning environment for all students and staff.

Who is involved?

- Parents/Guardians
- School Administrators & Counselors
- Teachers & Support Staff
- Mental Health Professionals (if needed)
- School Resource Officer (SRO) (if applicable)

 **Reference:** Student Safety Plan Template

2. Parent Responsibilities in the Safety Plan

Stay Informed & Communicate Regularly

- Attend all meetings related to the safety plan.
- Maintain open communication with school personnel.
- Update the school on any changes in your child's behavior at home.

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✓ Reinforce Behavior Expectations at Home

- Discuss the safety plan with your child in a supportive manner.
- Set clear rules and expectations for behavior at home and in school.
- Monitor your child’s social media and peer interactions for any concerns.

✓ Support Intervention Efforts

- Follow through with mental health services, counseling, or other recommended interventions.
- Encourage your child to comply with school expectations and behavior supports.
- Participate in family-based support programs if offered.

 **Handout:** Family Strategies for Supporting At-Risk Students.

3. School-Parent Communication Plan

✓ How Will Parents Be Notified?

- **Meetings & Conferences:** Scheduled check-ins to review progress.
- **Phone Calls or Emails:** Updates from teachers, counselors, or administrators.
- **Behavior Reports:** Regular documentation of student behavior and progress.

✓ When Should Parents Contact the School?

- If there are concerns about the student’s emotional or behavioral well-being.
- If there are major changes at home (family conflict, loss, or stressors).
- If the student is struggling with plan compliance or needs additional support.

 **Reference:** School-Home Partnership Agreement for Student Safety Plans.

4. Addressing Confidentiality & Student Rights

✓ What Information Can Be Shared?

- Schools will provide relevant updates about the safety plan and interventions.
- Parents will be informed of any changes in behavior or increased risk factors.

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Confidentiality Considerations:

- **FERPA (Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act)** protects student information, but safety concerns may require **limited disclosure to necessary parties** (e.g., teachers, counselors, law enforcement).
- Parents **cannot share details about other students involved** in incidents.

 **Handout:** FERPA Exception for Health & Safety Emergencies

5. Crisis Response & Emergency Procedures

Emergency Situations Requiring Immediate Action:

- If a student **poses an immediate threat to themselves or others**, parents will be notified **immediately** and law enforcement or mental health services may be involved.
- Parents must **follow school crisis procedures** and provide any necessary support.

Who to Contact in a Crisis:

- **School Administrator:** _____
- **Counselor or Mental Health Support:** _____
- **School Resource Officer (if applicable):** _____

 **Handout:** School Crisis Response Plan.

6. Parent Agreement & Commitment

I acknowledge that I have reviewed this Student Safety Plan and agree to:

- Maintain **open communication** with school staff.
- Reinforce **behavioral expectations at home**.
- Participate in **intervention services** if necessary.
- Follow **school crisis and safety procedures**.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

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School Representative Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

This plan is designed to foster **collaboration between parents and schools** to support the student's success while ensuring a safe school environment for all.