### **Chapter 5** Programs and Services

### 5.6 <u>Student Safety</u>

#### **Policy Statement**

APSEA believes students can achieve their maximum growth and potential within a safe, positive, and nurturing learning environment. The safety of students is APSEA's top priority. This obligation begins when students leave the custody of their parent/guardian and continues until they return to their parent/guardian. APSEA makes every reasonable effort to ensure students are safe at all times and in the broadest sense possible.

#### **Policy Objectives**

- i. To identify key areas of concern for the protection and safety of students in APSEA's care.
- ii. To ensure safeguards are in place to minimize the risk of physical, psychological and emotional harm to students.

#### **Policy Directives**

- Employees are responsible at all times for the safety of students participating in APSEA programs.
- Every effort shall be made to ensure a safe, positive, learning environment.
- Staff will ensure all necessary documentation is in place when students attending the APSEA Centre have parent/guardian permission to leave the property unaccompanied.
- Staff will ensure students are released to only approved individuals.
- Staff will take seriously all concerns regarding student safety and protection and respond immediately to address issues that have come to their attention, including reporting as required.
- This policy is supported by procedures to guide APSEA staff in ensuring student safety.

#### **Application**

This policy applies to all APSEA staff responsible for students participating in APSEA programs.

### Accountability, Monitoring and Review

- The Superintendent of APSEA is accountable to the APSEA Board of Directors for compliance with this policy.
- The Superintendent of APSEA or his/her designate will review this policy annually.

# **Approval Dates**

This policy replaces procedures EI.02, HS.03

Approved: 24 March 2016

Revised:

# **Communication/Enquiries**

For information about this policy, please contact the Superintendent (902/424-8500, apsea@apsea.ca).