

The Code of Professional Ethics for Teachers *

The All India Primary Teachers' Federation has developed The Code of Professional Ethics for Teachers.

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A. Teacher in Relation to Students

The teacher shall:

1. Respect the rights of all children to benefit from the provisions identified in the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child (1989) particularly those rights that apply to education;
2. Always strive to foster the intellectual, social and moral growth of his/ her students;
3. Treat all students with love and affection and be just and impartial to all irrespective of caste, creed, sex, status, religion, language and the place of birth;
4. Not divulge information of confidential nature pertaining to a

student except to the parents of the students or to the one legitimately entitled to it;

5. Not exploit the privileged relationship between the teacher and his/ her students;
6. Respect moral and religious beliefs of his/ her students;
7. Take all possible steps to safeguard his/her students from sexual abuse or getting inflicted with HIV/ AIDS; and
8. Set a standard of dress and behaviour worthy of example for the students.

B. Teacher in Relation to Parents/ Guardians

The teacher shall:

1. Recognise the rights of parents to information about progress of their child;
2. Establish and maintain cordial relations with parents and seek their cooperation in improving

* Source: All India Primary Teachers' Federation, 24th Biennial Conference.

learning outcomes of their ward and in improving functioning of the school; and

3. Refrain from doing anything which may undermine students' confidence in their parents or guardian.

C. Teacher in Relation to the Society and the Nation

The teacher shall:

1. Strive to understand the social problems and take part in activities which would be conducive to meet the challenges posed by the problems;
2. Refrain from taking part in activities having potential to spread feeling of hatred or enmity among different communities; religious and linguistic groups;
3. Be loyal to school, community, state and the nation;
4. Inculcate desirable human values among his/her students;
5. Foster national integration; and
6. Exhort his/her students to discharge their Fundamental Duties as enshrined in the Constitution.

D. Teacher in Relation to Profession and Colleagues

The teacher shall:

1. Win public trust and confidence by providing quality education to all the students;
2. Update his/her knowledge of the subject(s) and fine-tune his/her teaching competence on a continuing basis;

3. Develop a sense of professionalism;
4. Always transact the curriculum effectively after making thorough preparation for the lessons to be taught;
5. Avoid making derogatory statements about challenges especially in the presence of pupils, other teachers, officials or parents;
6. Cooperate with the head of the institution and colleagues in and outside the institution in both curricular and co-curricular activities;
7. Promote collegiality among colleagues by respecting their professional standing and opinions;
8. Safeguard and promote the interests and well being of colleagues;
9. Have favourable attitude towards the teaching profession;
10. Treat other members of the profession in the same manner as he/she himself/herself wishes to be treated; and
11. Refrain from lodging unsubstantiated allegations against his/ her colleagues.

E. Teacher in Relation to Management

The teacher shall:

1. Be knowledge about his/her legal and administrative rights and his/ her responsibilities towards the management;
2. Carry out instructions from management personnel and has also the right to question instructions through clearly determined procedure and channel; and

3. Develop mutual respect and trust through his/her professional activities and outputs.

F. Teacher in Relation to Teacher Association

The teacher shall:

1. Become a member of the teacher association at the state/national/international level. He/she shall treat this as his/her professional responsibility;

2. Participate in the activities organised by the teacher association for his/her profession growth and for augmenting the strength of the association and its unity and solidarity;

3. Be constructive in his/her criticism of the activities of the association; and

4. Promote change within the teacher association for its development.