



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Education  
Region XI  
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF PANABO CITY

24-17654

*Office of the Schools Division Superintendent*

**DIVISION MEMORANDUM**

SGOD-2024-0541

To : Assistant Schools Division Superintendent  
Chief, Curriculum Implementation Division (CID)  
Chief, Schools Governance and Operations Division (SGOD)  
All Public and Private Elementary and Secondary School Heads

Subject: **DISSEMINATION OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DEPED ORDER NO. 40, S. 2012 OR THE DEPED CHILD PROTECTION POLICY**

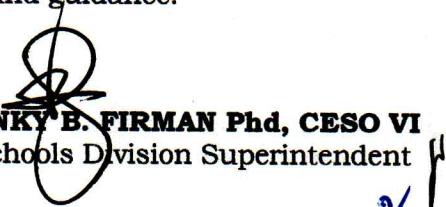
Date: October 21, 2024

Attached is Regional Memorandum ESSD-2024-455 re: **DISSEMINATION OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DEPED ORDER NO. 40, S. 2012 OR THE DEPED CHILD PROTECTION POLICY.**

This memorandum is intended to strengthen the responsive mechanisms of the Child Protection Policy, especially the referral system and emphasizes the importance of DepEd linking with multi-disciplinary and collaborative child protection systems in Local Government Units and communities.

Other details and information are provided in the enclosures.

For your information and guidance.

  
**JINKY B. FIRMAN Phd, CESO VI**  
Schools Division Superintendent

  
**RELEASED**

**OCT 21 2024**

RECORDS SECTION SDO PANABO CITY

BY 

Encl: as stated.  
SGOD/aba/gcn



Schools Division Office of Panabo City  
City Hall Drive, Brgy. JP Laurel, Km 31, Panabo City  
Tel. Nos. (084)8231469, (084) 628 4066  
Email: [panabocity.division@deped.gov.ph](mailto:panabocity.division@deped.gov.ph)



DepEd Panabo:  
**Empowering Champions in Education**  
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0 0541 Davao

RELEASER

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
DAVAO REGION

39335

October 8, 2024

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM  
ESSD-2024-455

DISSEMINATION OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL GUIDELINES FOR THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF DEPED ORDER NO. 40, S. 2012,  
OR THE DEPED CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

To: Schools Division Superintendents

1. Attached is a memorandum from the Office of the Undersecretary for Operations dated **September 26, 2024**, which is self-explanatory.
2. Schools Division Superintendents and others concerned are enjoined to provide full support and heighten the awareness and sensitivity of teaching and non-teaching personnel, Alternative Learning System (ALS) implementers, parents, guardians, and caregivers in home-based or distance learning and homeschooling, government agencies, local government units (LGUs), community leaders, children themselves, and other stakeholders towards the devastating impact of violence in schools, community learning centers (CLCs), and at home, and strengthen their commitment to take action to promote positive social norms and implement mechanisms for ensuring that schools, CLCs and homes are safe and nurturing spaces for learning.
3. Furthermore, this Memorandum is intended to highlight and expound the roles and responsibilities of various offices and personnel of the Department and strengthens the responsive mechanisms of the Child Protection Policy, especially the referral system, and emphasizes the importance of DepEd linking with multi-disciplinary and collaborative child protection systems in Local Government Units and communities.
4. Immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - RUE  
RECORDS SECTION  
**RELEASED**

ALLAN G. FARNAZO  
Director

By: *[Signature]* Oct. 16, 2024

39335

Encl.: As stated

ROE/smtc



Address: F. Torres St., Davao City (8000)  
Telephone Nos. (082) 291-1665, (082) 221-6147  
Email Address: region11@deped.gov.ph  
Website: www.depedroxi.ph





Republika ng Pilipinas  
**Department of Education**  
 OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR OPERATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION-ROXI  
 SECOND SECTION

**MEMORANDUM**

DM-OUOPS-2024-05-07998

RECEIVED  
 L 39335  
 Date: 10.4.24 Time: 9:24

TO : **ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS  
 ALL SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS  
 ALL SCHOOL HEADS  
 ALL OTHERS CONCERNED**

FROM : **ATTY. REVSEE A. ESCOBEDO**  
*Undersecretary for Operations*

SUBJECT : **SUPPLEMENTAL GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION  
 OF DEPED ORDER NO. 40, S. 2012, OR THE DEPED CHILD  
 PROTECTION POLICY**

DATE : **September 26, 2024**

1. DepEd Order (D.O.) No. 40, series of 2012, or the "DepEd Child Protection Policy," reiterates the zero-tolerance policy of the Department of Education (DepEd) for any act of child abuse, exploitation, neglect, violence, discrimination, bullying, and other forms of abuse based on the 1987 Constitution, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Republic Act (R.A.) No. 7610 or the "Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act," Executive Order No. 209 (1987) or the "Family Code of the Philippines," Presidential Decree No. 603 or the "The Child and Youth Welfare Code," and "Republic Act 10627, otherwise known as the "Anti-Bullying Act of 2013", among other relevant laws.

2. Violence against children adversely affects the learning process and well-being of children, both in school and at home, whether learning is face-to-face, online, or at home. As such, it is envisioned that the DepEd Child Protection Policy, taken together with this DepEd Memorandum as well as other relevant DepEd policies,<sup>1</sup> shall heighten the awareness and sensitivity of teaching and non-teaching personnel, community Alternative Learning System (ALS) implementors, parents, guardians and caregivers in home-based or distance learning and homeschooling, government agencies, local government units (LGUs), community leaders, children themselves and other stakeholders towards the devastating impact of violence in schools, community learning centers and at home, and strengthen their commitment to take action to promote positive social norms and implement mechanisms for ensuring that schools, community learning centers and homes are

<sup>1</sup> D.O. No. 55, s. 2013, "Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (R.A.) No. 10627 otherwise known as the Anti-Bullying Act of 2013" ("Anti-Bullying Policy"), dated December 23, 2013; D.O. No. 18, 2. 2015, "DepEd Guidelines and Procedures on the Management of Children-At-Risk (CAR) and Children in Conflict with the Law (CICL)", dated May 18, 2015; D.O. No. 57, s. 2017, "Policy on the Protection of Children in Armed Conflict", dated November 21, 2017, among others.

safe and nurturing spaces for learning.

3. With various Learning Delivery Modes (LDMs), there are online risks to children including online sexual abuse and exploitation of children (OSAEC), exposure of children to unsafe and inappropriate content and behavior online, or to predators such as stalkers and scammers, and violations of the privacy of children, or prohibited harnessing of their personal information, among others.
4. This DepEd Memorandum is intended to highlight and expound the roles and responsibilities of various offices and personnel of DepEd, especially school heads, Child Protection Committees in schools and community learning centers, teachers and guidance counselors, other non-teaching personnel, community ALS implementors, parents, guardians, learners' peers and learners themselves in preventing, detecting, reporting and addressing child abuse, online sexual abuse and exploitation, neglect, violence, discrimination, and other forms of abuse.
5. This DepEd Memorandum also strengthens the responsive mechanisms of the Child Protection Policy, especially the referral system, and emphasizes the importance of DepEd linking with multi-disciplinary and collaborative child protection systems in Local Government Units and communities, including the Local Councils for the Protection of Children (LCPCs), as well as maintaining partnerships with other agencies, civil society organizations (CSOs), and private entities working for the protection of children.
6. This DepEd Memorandum is issued primarily to set clarifications to the DepEd Child Protection Policy in addressing the context of online safety, reiterate the referral system in consideration of the different learning modalities, emphasize the provision of intervention programs for learner-victims, and set in place the Learner Rights and Protection Office in the child protection system of the Department.
7. For more information, please contact the **Learner Rights and Protection Office**, 3rd Floor, Mabini Building, Department of Education Central Office, DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City, through email at [lrpo@deped.gov.ph](mailto:lrpo@deped.gov.ph) or at the telephone number (02) 8632-1372.
8. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

**Supplemental and Expanded Guidelines on the Implementation of DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012, or the DepEd Child Protection Policy**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

Pursuant to the 1987 Constitution, the State "shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels, and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all." (Article XV, Section 3 [2]) The State shall also defend the "right of children to assistance, including proper care and nutrition, and special protection from all forms of neglect, abuse, cruelty, exploitation and other conditions prejudicial to their development" (Article XV, Section 3 [2]).

The Constitution further provides that all educational institutions shall "inculcate patriotism and nationalism, foster love of humanity, respect for human rights, appreciation of the role of national heroes in the historical development of the country, teach the rights and duties of citizenship, strengthen ethical and spiritual values, develop moral character and personal discipline, encourage critical and creative thinking, broaden scientific and technological knowledge, and promote vocational efficiency." (Article XIV, Section 3 [2])

As the State is mandated to uphold the right to quality and accessible education in a safe and nurturing environment for the learners, the DepEd recognizes its obligation to provide and foster safe and gender-sensitive learning environments, which promote inclusivity, positive discipline, and learner-centered teaching as well as protect and improve children's physical, mental and socio-emotional well-being. Towards this end, the DepEd, in collaboration with its partners and stakeholders, shall ensure that all schools are conducive to the education of learners.

Finally, DepEd recognizes the participatory rights of the learners, with consideration of their evolving capacities and maturity, in the formulation and implementation of policies, and in all proceedings affecting them, whether they be victims or aggressors, either directly, or through a representative.

Accordingly, the DepEd reiterates a zero-tolerance policy for any act of child abuse, exploitation, neglect, violence, discrimination, and other forms of abuse, and hereby supplements DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012, or the "DepEd Child Protection Policy" by providing clarifications and expansion of the Child Protection Committees.

**II. SCOPE AND COVERAGE**

This DepEd Memorandum supplements the implementation of DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012, or the "DepEd Child Protection Policy" by providing clarifications to reiterate the procedures in the management and referral of incidents. This DepEd Memorandum expands the prohibited acts as well as the membership, duties, and responsibilities of the Child Protection Committees in schools.

Further, DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012 and this DepEd Memorandum shall apply to all public and private schools and community learning centers, in all their school-sponsored, school-related, and off-campus activities, functions, or programs.

### III. DEFINITION OF TERMS

**A. "Child"** – refers to any person below eighteen (18) years of age or those over but are unable to fully take care of themselves from abuse, neglect, cruelty, exploitation, or discrimination because of a physical or mental disability or condition (Sec. 3[a], RA 7610).

For purposes of implementing DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012, the term also includes persons who may be above eighteen provided that they are enrolled in a basic education institution. Accordingly, "learner" may be interchangeably used with this term.

**B. "Child marriage"** – refers to any marriage entered into where one or both parties are children, and solemnized in civil or church proceedings, or in any recognized traditional, cultural, or customary manner. It shall include informal union or cohabitation outside wedlock between an adult and a child, or between children (Sec. 3[b], RA 11596).

**C. "Child Protection Specialists"** – refers to any DepEd personnel who has successfully completed the Child Protection Specialization Course.

**D. "Child Sexual Abuse or Exploitation Materials"** – refers to any representation, whether offline, or by, through or with the use of ICT, by means of visual, video, audio, written, or any combination thereof, by electronic, mechanical, digital, optical, magnetic or any other means, of a child engaged or involved in real or simulated sexual activities, or depicting acts of sexual abuse or exploitation of a child as a sexual object. It shall also include materials that focus on the genitalia or other private body parts of a child (Sec. 3[c], RA 11930).

**E. "Grooming"** – refers to predatory conduct, act, or pattern of acts, of establishing a relationship of trust, or emotional connection by another, with a learner, and/or the family, guardian, and/or caregivers, whether in person or via electronic and other similar devices, for the purpose of perpetrating sexual abuse or exploitation or the production of any form of CSAEM (Sec. 3[i], RA 11930).

**F. "Information and communications technology (ICT)** – refers to the totality of electronic means to access, create, collect, store, process, receive, transmit, present and disseminate information.

G. ***“Learner”*** – refers to a child who attends classes in any level of the basic education system, under the supervision and tutelage of a teacher, learning facilitator, community ALS implementor, learning support aide, parents, guardian or other caregiver.

H. ***“Learner Protection”*** – refers to programs, services, procedures and structures that are intended to prevent, detect and respond to child abuse, exploitation, neglect, violence, discrimination, bullying, and other forms of abuse.

I. ***“Learner Rights and Protection Office”*** – refers to the office under the supervision of the Undersecretary for Operations (OUOps) pursuant to DepEd Order No. 1, s. 2023, which was created by virtue of DepEd Order No. 3, s. 2021 to establish a mechanism to fully operationalize, implement, and coordinate programs, projects, and activities pertaining to learner rights and protection.

J. ***“Online Sexual Abuse or Exploitation of Children”*** – refers to the use of ICT as a means to abuse and/or exploit children sexually, which includes cases in which offline child abuse and/or exploitation is combined with an online component. This can also include, but is not limited to, the production, dissemination, and possession of CSAEM; online grooming of children for sexual purposes; sexual extortion of children; sharing image-based sexual abuse; commercial sexual exploitation of children; exploitation of children through online prostitution; and live-streaming of sexual abuse, with or without the consent of the victim. Provided, That OSAEC may be used interchangeably with online child sexual exploitation or abuse (OCSEA) (Sec. 3[t], RA 11930).

#### **IV. CLARIFICATION ON PROHIBITED ACTS**

In view of the promulgation of Republic Act (RA) Nos. 11596<sup>2</sup> and 11930<sup>3</sup>, child marriage and OSAEC shall also be considered prohibited acts in relation to Section 15 of DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012.

Further, DepEd shall join in preventing and reporting child marriage and OSAEC. Hence, awareness-raising and capacity-building activities, including procedures on reporting, shall form part of the preventive and responsive mechanisms of the Department.

<sup>2</sup> An Act Prohibiting the Practice of Child Marriage and Imposing Penalties for Violations Thereof.

<sup>3</sup> Anti-Online Sexual Abuse or Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) and Anti-Child Sexual Abuse or Exploitation Materials (CSAEM) Act.

In relation to "Bullying or Peer Abuse" defined under Section 3(M) of DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012, the said provision shall be disregarded in light of its express repeal by DepEd Order No. 55, s. 2013 or the "Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 10627 otherwise known as the Anti-Bullying Act of 2013".

## **V. PREVENTIVE MECHANISMS**

### **A. Establishment of the Child Protection Committee at the Regional Level**

All Regional Offices shall establish a Child Protection Committee (Regional Child Protection Committee) to act as a multi-disciplinary team in the management of learner rights and protection concerns at the Regional level. The Regional Child Protection Committee (RCPC) shall have the following members:

1. Assistant Regional Director- Chairperson;
2. Regional Focal Person for Learner Rights and Protection- Vice Chairperson;
3. Chief of the Education Support Services Division- Member;
4. Representative of the School Health and Nutrition Unit- Member; and
5. Registered Guidance Counselor employed by the Regional Office or the Education Program Specialist for *Edukasyon sa Pagpapakatao*.

The RCPC shall convene when there are severe and complex incidents that requires the immediate attention of the Regional Director and the Central Office. The RCPC shall also be involved in the planning of preventive mechanisms, such as awareness-raising and capacity-building activities.

### **B. Duties and Responsibilities of the Regional Child Protection Committee**

The Regional Child Protection Committee shall have the following functions:

1. Monitor learner rights and protection incidents in the Schools Division Offices and provide technical assistance relative to the referral of cases to partner agencies and other related services needed by the learner.
2. Recommend interventions for the well-being and development of learners;
3. Spearhead the conduct of capacity-building activities at the Regional level;
4. Strengthen inter- agency partnership and collaboration;
5. Provide timely and appropriate technical assistance to Schools Division Offices in the prevention, recognition, recording, reporting, and referral of learner rights and protection incidents;
6. Allocate funds for regional-level capability building, advocacy

programs, and other related activities from Regional Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses Fund and downloaded Program Support Fund; and

7. Perform such other functions, as may be assigned by the Secretary.

#### **C. Establishment of the Child Protection Committee at the Division Level**

All Schools Division Offices shall establish a Child Protection Committee (Division Child Protection Committee) to act as a multi-disciplinary team in the management of learner rights and protection concerns at the Division level. The Division Child Protection Committee (RCPC) shall have the following members:

1. Chief of the School Governance and Operations Division - Chairperson;
2. Education Program Specialist of the School Governance and Operations Division - Vice Chairperson;
3. Division Focal Person for Learner Rights and Protection- Secretariat;
4. Representative of the School Health and Nutrition Unit- Member;
5. Division Federation of the School Supreme Elementary/Secondary Learner Government- Member; and
6. Registered Guidance Counselor employed by the Schools Division Office or the Education Program Specialist for *Edukasyon sa Pagpapakatao* and Guidance.

The DCPC shall convene when there are severe and complex incidents that requires immediate attention of the Schools Division Superintendent and the Regional Director. The DCPC shall also be involved in the planning of preventive mechanisms, such as awareness-raising and capacity-building activities.

#### **D. Duties and Responsibilities of the Division Child Protection Committee Level**

The Division Child Protection Committee shall have the following functions:

1. Monitor learner rights and protection incidents in the school and provide technical assistance relative to the referral of cases to partner agencies and other related services needed by the learner;
2. Provide immediate and appropriate technical assistance to the Child Protection Committees in schools in handling learner disclosures/complaints;
3. Allocate funds for school-level capability building, advocacy programs, and other related activities from the Maintenance and Other Operating

Expenses Fund of the Division and downloaded Program Support Funds from the Central Office;

4. Strengthen inter-agency partnerships and collaboration; and
5. Perform such other functions, as may be assigned by the Secretary or the Regional Director.

#### **E. Clarifications on the Membership of the Child Protection Committees in Schools**

When the school is dealing with an incident of sexual abuse or exploitation, and suicide or death due to abuse or violence, only the School Head/Administrator, School Learner Rights and Protection Focal Person, and the Registered Guidance Counselor/Designate shall be allowed to handle the incident due to the sensitive nature of the matter.

#### **F. Duties and Responsibilities of the Child Protection Specialists**

Child Protection Specialists (CPSs) shall have the following functions:

1. Provide technical assistance to their Schools Division Offices and schools in managing learner rights and protection concerns;
2. Assist in the referral of Learner Rights and Protection Incidents to other government or non-government agencies for appropriate interventions or further case management;
3. Build a network and liaise with these organizations, whether government or non-government, to help Child Protection Committees in schools in referring concerns to the appropriate organization. These organizations include, but are not limited to, the Barangay Councils for Children Protection (BCPCs), Women and Children's Protection Desks (WCPDs), Local/City/Municipal Social Welfare and Development Offices (LSWDOs/CSWDOs/MSDWOs), Child Protection Units (CPUs) in hospitals, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and child-focused non-government organizations;
4. Create a clear directory of the partner organizations where services and various forms of assistance may be available for learner-victims. The directory shall be regularly updated and made readily available to all schools at all times; and
5. Provide timely technical assistance to schools in handling learner rights and protection concerns such as, but not limited to, child abuse, discrimination, exploitation, violence, and other similar acts.

#### **G. Safeguarding Measures for Learners during the Conduct of Curricular and Co-Curricular Programs and Activities Inside or Outside the School Premises**

All schools and the organizer of the curricular or co-curricular program or activity shall implement the following safeguarding measures:

- i. Intensify and promote learner participation;
- ii. Set up Learner Rights and Protection Desks capable to recognize, record, report, and refer incidents;
- iii. Formulate safeguarding protocol for all participants (Template for Safeguarding Protocol is attached as Annex "A" of this DepEd Memorandum); and
- iv. Discuss the safeguarding protocol during the preliminary activities of every program.

#### **H. Online Protection**

In relation to DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012, Section 3(K), this DepEd Memorandum clarifies that Child Exploitation may be committed online. Further, with the enactment of RA 11930 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations, Online Sexual Abuse or Exploitation of Children committed against learners should be detected, reported, and acted upon.

It is also acknowledged by the Department that there are emerging issues on online protection such as the appearance of learners in the social media accounts of DepEd personnel.

To protect learners from any form of online exploitation, all DepEd offices and personnel should observe the Safeguarding Guidelines in the Use of Information and Communications Technology and Social Media for Learners and DepEd Personnel. (The Safeguarding Guidelines in the Use of Information and Communications Technology and Social Media for Learners and DepEd Personnel is attached as Annex "B" of this DepEd Memorandum).

#### **I. Capacity Building of Schools Officials, Personnel, Parents/Guardians, Learners, Division, and Regional Focal Persons**

1. All public and private basic education schools, as well as community learning centers, shall formulate preventive programs, projects, and activities to capacitate learners, teaching and non-teaching personnel, parents, guardians, and caregivers, to uphold learner protection and manage child abuse, exploitation, neglect, violence, discrimination, bullying and peer violence, and other forms of abuse.

Capacity-building activities shall include, but not be limited to, the conduct of sessions, trainings, seminars and workshops on positive peer relationships, positive and non-violent discipline in classroom management, enhancement of social and emotional competence, anger and stress management, gender sensitivity, as well as prevention,

recognition, recording, reporting, and referral to appropriate agencies and authorities of child abuse, exploitation, neglect, violence, discrimination, bullying, and peer violence, and other forms of abuse.

Capacity-building activities shall also cover the enhancement of pedagogy and andragogy skills in integrating and teaching children's rights, including child protection, and the development of instructional materials and other social behavior change materials.

2. Recognizing the need for awareness-raising and capacity-building of school/learning center officials, personnel, parents, guardians, and learners on matters pertaining to learner online protection, capacity-building activities shall include orientations and trainings on Child Online Safeguarding, Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children, and similar topics.

## **VI. RESPONSIVE MECHANISMS**

### **A. Reporting to the Learners TeleSafe Contact Center Helpline**

The Learners TeleSafe Contact Center Helpline shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

1. The Learners TeleSafe Contact Center Helpline under the Learner Rights and Protection Office shall be the central repository of data on incidents of abuse, violence, exploitation, discrimination, and other forms of abuse.
2. The Learners TeleSafe Contact Center Helpline shall receive reports on incidents from the school, as endorsed and reviewed by the Regional and Schools Division Offices.
3. The Learners TeleSafe Contact Center Helpline shall likewise review and endorse reports of incidents from learners, parents or guardians, and concerned citizens. The reports received by the Learners TeleSafe Contact Center Helpline shall then be acted upon by the field offices as provided under DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012.

### **B. Risk Assessment**

The Child Protection Committees in schools, through the registered guidance counselors/designates and the school heads, shall accomplish the Initial Risk Assessment Form, in addition to the Intake Sheet, when there is a probable incident of abuse, violence, exploitation,

discrimination, and other forms of abuse. The Initial Risk Assessment Form is attached to this DepEd Memorandum as Annex "C".

The Child Protection Committees in schools shall then refer the learner-victim to the Local Social Welfare and Development Office for proper assessment and intervention.

#### **C. Reporting and Referral**

1. All incidents of child abuse, violence, exploitation, discrimination, and other forms of abuse, whether raised to the school or based on Risk Assessment, should be reported to the Schools Division Offices, Regional Offices, and the Central Office, particularly to the Learner Rights and Protection Office.
2. If the incident happened at home and the perpetrators are not the personnel of a school, the matter should be referred to the Local Social Welfare and Development Office through the Municipal/City Social Welfare and Development Office, and the Philippine National Police through the Women and Children Protection Desk.
3. If the incident requires intervention beyond the capacity of the school, the incident may also be referred to the appropriate agency.
4. The procedure of reporting and referral is attached to the DepEd Memorandum as Annex "D".

#### **D. Enhanced Intake Sheet**

In handling all incidents of abuse, violence, exploitation, discrimination, and other forms of abuse, all schools shall utilize the enhanced Intake Sheet, which is attached to this DepEd Memorandum as Annex "E".

Further, the Intake Sheet should be kept confidential. Only the Registered Guidance Counselors/Designates may keep the Intake Sheet unless otherwise required by laws, rules, and other issuances. In handling incidents, the School Head, the Division and Region Focal Persons for Learner Rights and Protection, as well as the Central Office may check the contents of the Intake Sheet for purposes of providing interventions to the learner-victim.

It is further clarified by this Memorandum that the Intake Sheets should be filled in by the Child Protection Committees in schools, through the Registered Guidance Counselors or Designates, and signed by the School Head.

## VII. EFFECTIVITY

This Memorandum shall take effect immediately upon its approval. All other orders, issuances, rules, and regulations that are inconsistent with the provisions of these guidelines are repealed and rescinded accordingly.

## VIII. REFERENCES

**RA 7610 (An Act Providing for Stronger Deterrence and Special Protection Against Exploitation and Discrimination, and for Other Purposes)**

RA 11930 (An Act Punishing Online Sexual Abuse or Exploitation of Children, Penalizing the Production, Distribution, Possession and Access of Child Sexual Abuse or Exploitation Materials, Amending Republic Act No. 9160, Otherwise known as the "Anti-Money Laundering Act of 2001", as Amended and Repealing Republic Act No. 9775, Otherwise Known as the "Anti-Child Pornography Act of 2009")

DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012 (*DepEd Child Protection Policy*)