



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Cavite
CITY OF BACOR

Office of the Sangguniang Panlungsod



DISTRICT I

HON. CATHERINE SARINO-EVARISTO
City Councilor

HON. MICHAEL E. SOLIS
City Councilor

HON. ADRIELITO G. GAWARAN
City Councilor

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City Councilor

HON. RANDY C. FRANCISCO
Liga ng mga Barangay Vice-President

HON. PALM ANGEL S. BUNCIO
SK Federation President

Attested by:
ATTY. KHALID A. ATEGA, JR.
Sangguniang Panlungsod Secretary

Certified by:

HON. REYNALDO D. PALABRICA
Acting Presiding Officer

Approved by:
HON. STRIKE B. REVILLA
City Mayor

**CITY ORDINANCE NO. 426-2025
Series of 2025**

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING THE CHILD PROTECTION POLICY TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE CITY OF BACOR, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS HEREOF.

Sponsored by:

Hon. Catherine Sarino-Evaristo

Co-Sponsored by:

Hon. Roberto L. Advincula, Hon. Ramon N. Bautista, Hon. Palm Angel S. Buncio, Hon. Simplicio G. Dominguez, Hon. Reynaldo M. Fabian, Hon. Randy C. Francisco, Hon. Adrielito G. Gawaran, Hon. Alejandro F. Gutierrez, Hon. Rogelio M. Nolasco, Hon. Aide Joselito F. Pagulayan, Hon. Michael E. Solis and Hon. Levy M. Tela.

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 13 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that, "The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs.";

WHEREAS, Article XV, Section 3(2) of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that "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";

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 12 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that "The State recognizes the sanctity of family life and shall protect and strengthen the family as a basic autonomous social institution. It shall equally protect the life of the mother and the life of the unborn from conception. The natural and primary right and duty of parents in the rearing of the youth for civic efficiency and the development of moral character shall receive the support of the Government.";

WHEREAS, Article 19 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child provides that "The State shall take all legislative, administrative, social, and educational measures for the protection of the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury, abuse, neglect, maltreatment, or exploitation";



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WHEREAS, Section 2, paragraph 3 of the Republic Act (R.A) No. 7610 otherwise known as "An Act Providing For Stringer Deterrence and Special Protection Against Child Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination and For Other Purposes", provides that "The best interests of children shall be the paramount consideration in all actions concerning them, whether undertaken by public or private social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities and legislative bodies, consistent with the principle of First Call for Children as enunciated in the United Nations Convention on the rights of the Child. Every effort shall be made to promote the welfare of children and enhance their opportunities for a useful and a happy life.";

WHEREAS, Section 2, paragraph 2 of the Republic Act (R.A) No. 9262, otherwise known as the "Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children Act of 2004," provides that "The State shall exert efforts to address violence committed against women and children in keeping with the fundamental freedoms guaranteed under the Constitution and the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Convention on the Rights of the Child, and other International Human Rights instruments of which the Philippines is a party";

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 11930, otherwise known as the "Anti-Online Sexual Abuse or Exploitation of Children" (OSAEC) and Anti-Child Sexual Abuse or Exploitation Materials (CSAEM) Act," provides that "it is the policy of the state to provide special protection to children from all forms of sexual violence, abuse, and exploitation, especially those committed with the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT);

WHEREAS, City Ordinance No. CO 171-2021, otherwise known as the "Child Development and Protection Code of the City of Bacoor," outlines policies to safeguard children's rights and well-being, and emphasizes the city's commitment to ensuring children's survival, development, protection, and participation rights;

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the said provisions in the 1987 Philippine Constitution, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the above-quoted provisions of our laws, children appear to be neglected of the proper care and guidance, education, and moral development that made them fall into the trap of exploitation and drug addiction and become easy prey of abuse and oftentimes at risk of committing various criminal offenses;

WHEREAS, children are susceptible to different forms of social opportunism, taking advantage of their credulity and gullibility, oftentimes have no means to speak out against violence, neglect, exploitation, and abuse;

WHEREAS, children, especially those who are marginalized, vulnerable, and underrepresented, must be provided with utmost protection from all forms of violence against children,

2 City Ordinance No. 426-2025, (Bacoor City Child Protection Policy Ordinance) 24 February 2025



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City Mayor

and the best interest of the child in all aspects is foremost the consideration in the promotion of public welfare;

WHEREAS, alongside poverty, hunger, malnutrition, and disease, children are vulnerable to and have become victims of various forms of abuse, violence, and exploitation, and therefore need protection.

WHEREAS, mindful of these circumstances, the City Government of Bacoor has set its goals straight to the end of achieving the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth; thus, the need to formulate this Bacoor City Child Protection Policy Ordinance.

NOW THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Bacoor, Cavite, that:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. – This Ordinance shall be known as the **"Bacoor City Child Protection Policy Ordinance."**

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY. – It is hereby declared the policy of the City of Bacoor to promote and protect the rights of all children enshrined in the Philippine Constitution and other laws and to adhere to the core principles of the four (4) pillars of children's rights and protection provided in the United Nation's Convention on the Rights of the Child that includes the right to life, survival and development, protection, non-discrimination, and participation, always having in mind the best interest of the child as the primary consideration. Thus, in pursuit of the preservation, promotion, and protection of these rights, it is further committed to the following:

A. Partnership and Collaboration. – The City Government of Bacoor upholds and sustains a truism that holistic protection of children against abuse, violence, neglect, and discrimination can be best achieved through a strong partnership and collaboration between and among government agencies, non-government organizations, faith-based and civil society groups, and, in general, the private sector working together with the highest degree of professionalism, diligence, respect, and competence in an atmosphere of solidarity and teamwork.

B. Promotion and Protection of Children's Rights. – The City Government of Bacoor recognizes its



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obligation to respect, protect, and promote children's rights through appropriate legislative, administrative, and other measures to help children realize their potential and dreams. The city also acknowledges the important rights and duties of parents and caregivers in ensuring the well-being of and in providing guidance and support to their children in accordance with child rights principles.

C. Strengthening Family Relations and Development.

– The City Government of Bacoor recognizes family as the basic unit of society; accordingly, it shall strengthen its bond and solidarity and actively promote its harmonious relations, social well-being, development, and overall wellness.

SECTION 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS. – For purposes of this Ordinance, the following shall be defined as follows:

- 1. ABANDONED CHILD** – As defined by Section 1, paragraph 3 of the Republic Act (R.A) No. 9523¹ refers to a child who has no proper parental care or guardianship, or whose parents or guardians have deserted him/her for a period of at least three (3) continuous months, which includes a founding.
- 2. AMUSEMENT CENTER** – Refers to any building or edifice or other structure, or portion thereof, which is used for commercial games and/or entertainment, which include but are not limited to coin- or token-operated game machines, billiard tables, and other activities and facilities designed for commercial amusement and recreation.
- 3. BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS AND ENTERPRISES** – Refers to any establishment doing business within the City of Bacoor that produces or distributes goods or products or performs services and that

¹ R.A. No. 9523 is entitled, "An Act Requiring Certification of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) to Declare a "Child Legally Available for Adoption" as a Prerequisite for Adoption Proceedings, Amending for this Purpose Certain Provisions of Republic Act No. 8552, Otherwise Known as the Domestic Adoption Act of 1998, Republic Act No. 8043, Otherwise Known as the Inter-Country Adoption Act of 1995, Presidential Decree No. 603, Otherwise Known as the Child and Youth Welfare Code, and for Other Purposes."



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makes their goods or services available to the public.

4. **CHILD ABUSE** – Refers to the maltreatment, whether habitual or not, which may include but not be limited to the following:

- Psychological and physical abuse, neglect, cruelty, sexual abuse, and emotional maltreatment;
- Any act by deeds or words that debases, degrades, or demeans the intrinsic worth and dignity of a child as a human being;
- Unreasonable deprivation of his/her basic needs for survival, such as food, clothing, and shelter; and
- Failure to immediately give medical treatment to a sick and/or injured child results in serious impairment of his or her growth and development, or his or her permanent incapacity or death.

5. **CHILD PROTECTION** – Refers to legislative measures, programs, and services that are intended to forestall and respond to abuse, neglect, exploitation, discrimination, and violence.

6. **CHILD PROTECTION POLICY** – Refers to the concrete legislative and executive measures, rules, policies, procedures, structures, and regulations espoused by the City Government of Bacoor in safeguarding children's rights and welfare regardless of their sexual orientation and gender identity, race, color, language, religion, political belief or opinion, nationality, ethnic or social origin, birth or other status, from all forms of violence, neglect, exploitation, and abuse.

7. **CHILDREN** – As defined under Section 3(a) of the Republic Act (R.A.) No. 7610, or the "Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation, and Discrimination Act," it refers to a person below eighteen (18) years of age or those over but who are unable to fully take care of themselves or protect themselves from abuse, neglect, cruelty,



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exploitation, or discrimination because of physical, mental, or sensory disability or condition.

8. CHILDREN AT RISK – Refers to children who are vulnerable to and at risk of committing criminal offenses because of personal, family, and social circumstances, such as, but not limited to, the following:

- being abused by any person through sexual, physical, psychological, mental, economic, or any other means, and the parents or guardians refuse, are unwilling, or are unable to provide protection for the child;
- being sexually or economically exploited;
- being abandoned or neglected, and after diligent search and inquiry, the parent or guardian cannot be found
- coming from a dysfunctional or broken family or without a parent or guardian;
- being out of school;
- being a child in street situation;
- being a member of a gang;
- living in a community with a high level of criminality or drug abuse;
- living in situations of armed conflict (R.A. No. 9344², as amended by R.A. No. 10630).
- child affected and infected with STD/HIV/AIDS (R.A. No. 8503³).
- Children who are abandoned, neglected, and rejected

9. CHILD LABOR – Refers to work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential, and their dignity, which is harmful to their physical and mental development.

10. CHILD TRAFFICKING – Refers to any person who shall engage in trading and dealing with children, including, but not limited to, the act of buying and selling a child for money or for any other consideration or barter.

² R.A. No. 9344, as amended by R.A. No. 10630 refers to the "Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act."

³ R.A. No. 8504 is entitled "An Act Promulgating Policies and Prescribing Measures for the Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS in the Philippines, Instituting a Nationwide HIV/AIDS Information and Educational Program, Establishing a Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Monitoring System, Strengthening the Philippine National AIDS Council, and for Other Purposes"



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11. CHILDREN IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW – Refers to children who are accused of, or adjudged as, having committed an offense or a crime under the Revised Penal Code, Special Penal Laws, Special Laws, and any other laws enacted by Congress that prescribe punishment for its commission.

12. CHILDREN IN NEED OF SPECIAL PROTECTION (CNSP) – Shall refer to all persons below eighteen (18) years of age or those 18 years old or over but unable to fully take care of themselves because of physical and mental disability or condition and those who are vulnerable to or victims of abuse, neglect, exploitation, cruelty, discrimination, and violence (armed conflict/domestic violence) and other analogous conditions prejudicial to their development; they are as follows:

- Sexually/physically abused children;
- Children in commercial sexual exploitation;
- Children in conflict with the law;
- Children involved in armed conflict;
- Working children or victims of child labor;
- Children in various circumstances of disability, whether mentally or physically challenged children;
- Children directly affected by HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs);
- Child in street situation;
- Abandoned children/children without a primary caregiver;
- Internally Displaced Children (IDCs); and
- Teenage mothers and those who get pregnant at their young age.

13. CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES - Refers to children who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual, or sensory impairments that render them unable to achieve full and effective participation in society.

14. CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS – Refers to (a) children with either physical or mental infirmities or disabilities, whether congenital or acquired after birth; or (b) a child in need of special protection.

15. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKER (CDW) – Refers to a person who is an expert in community development for children and is in charge of the education, supervision, and guidance of children



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whose age bracket is from three to five (3-5) years old.

16. **COMMUNITY REINTEGRATION PROGRAMS** – Shall refer to the programs established for the purpose of rehabilitation and preparing the child for reintegration into the community.
17. **COUNCIL** – shall refer to the City Council for the Protection of Children (CCPC).
18. **DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS** – Refers to the rights of a child to education to develop her or his personality, talents, and mental and physical abilities to the fullest extent, which may also include participation in cultural activities, access to appropriate and relevant information, and opportunities for rest, play, and leisure.
19. **DISASTER EMERGENCY** – Refers to a critical situation in which a community or region is struck by a hazardous event—such as natural disaster, technological accident, or human-induced crisis—that causes severe disruption to normal life. The disruption is so extensive that the local capacity to respond and cover is overwhelmed, requiring external assistance and the activation of emergency protocols/
20. **DIVERSION** – Refers to an alternative, child-appropriate process of determining the responsibility and treatment of a child in conflict with the law on the basis of his/her social, cultural, economic, psychological, or educational background without resorting to formal court proceedings.
21. **DIVERSION PROGRAM** – Refers to the program that Children in Conflict with the Law (CICL) shall undergo after the latter has been found to be responsible for the commission of an offense without undergoing court proceedings.
22. **DROP OUT** – Refers to children of school age officially enrolled but who discontinued attending classes.
23. **FAMILY** – Refers to a group of persons living together by virtue of marriage, blood, or



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adoption, instituted as a family by virtue of foster parenting, and regarded as the basic unit of society.

24. **INTERVENTION** – Refers to the series of activities that are designed to address issues that caused the child to commit an offense, for the child's individualized treatment program.
25. **SEXUALLY ABUSED CHILDREN** – Refers to children who have been used, persuaded, and coerced to engage in or assist another person to engage in sexual intercourse or lascivious conduct or the molestation or prostitution of, or the commission of incestuous acts on a child.
26. **INTENSIVE JUVENILE INTERVENTION SUPPORT PROGRAM** – Refers to a special program within the Office of Social Welfare and Development to address the needs of the Children in Conflict with the Law below the age of criminal responsibility (Sec. 20, R.A No. 10630⁴) for intensive intervention programs and services.
27. **JUVENILE JUSTICE AND WELFARE SYSTEM** – Refers to a system dealing with children at risk and children in conflict with the law, which provides child-appropriate proceedings, including programs and services for prevention, diversion, rehabilitation, reintegration, and aftercare to ensure their normal growth and development.
28. **NEGLECT** – Refers to any unreasonable deprivation of a child's basic needs, education, guidance, and general care and supervision by parents/guardians and any person entrusted by law to the care and custody of the child.
29. **NEGLECTED CHILD** – Refers to a child who's his or her parent or legal guardian has failed to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, basic education, moral development, or medical care for reasons other than lack of financial resources that seriously hamper the child's physical, mental, social, and emotional growth and development.

⁴ R.A. No. 10630 is entitled "An Act Strengthening the Juvenile Justice System in the Philippines, amending for the Purpose of Republic Act No. 9344, Otherwise Known as the "Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act of 2006" and Appropriating Funds Therefor"



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30. ONLINE CHILD SEXUAL VIOLENCE, ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION

– Refers to the act of using computer system, including the use of Artificial Intelligence, as a means to abuse and or exploit children sexually which may include, but not limited to grooming, live streaming, consuming child sexual abuse material, coercing and blackmailing children for sexual purposes, the production, dissemination and possession of nude photos or any other form of pornographic materials which are used in an online sexual violence and exploitation of children or any other act or acts defined and punished under Section 4 of Republic Act (R.A.) No. 11930, otherwise known as "Anti-Online Sexual Abuse or Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) and Anti-Child Sexual Abuse or Exploitation Materials (CSAEM) Act."

31. OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH

– Refers to a child whose age is below eighteen years old who is not enrolled in formal academic or vocational training in a recognized institution within the City of Bacoor.

32. PARTICIPATION RIGHTS

– Refers to the child's rights to participate in matters that affect him or her most by providing all appropriate venues where he or she can express his or her opinions freely and to have these opinions counted, involvement in decision-making and a consultative process, freedom of association, and peaceful assembly.

33. PROTECTION RIGHTS

– Refers to those rights protecting the child from all forms of abuse and discrimination, such as protection from neglect, violence, cruelty, torture, arbitrary separation from family, abuses in the justice and penal system, involvement in armed conflict, child labor, drug abuse, sexual abuse, and exploitation.

34. PSYCHOSOCIAL PROBLEMS

– Refers to a condition that indicates the existence of dysfunctions in a person's behavior, thoughts, and feelings brought about by sudden, extreme, prolonged, or cumulative stressors in the physical, mental, or social environment.

35. RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

– Refers to the principle that requires a process of resolving conflicts with the



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maximum involvement of the victim, the offender, and the community. It seeks to obtain reparation from the victim, reconciliation of the offender, the offended, and the community, and reassurance to the offender that he/she can be reintegrated into society. It also enhances public safety by activating the offender, the victim, and the community in prevention strategies.

- 36. SURVIVAL RIGHTS** – Refers to the child's inherent right to life and to the needs that are most basic to existence, the right to a name and nationality, the right to identity, and those dealing with parental and governmental duties and obligations, adequate and decent standard of living, access to basic health care and medical services, social security, and rehabilitation.

SECTION 4. RIGHTS OF THE CHILD. – Children shall be entitled to the basic rights herein provided regardless of their race, color, sex, language, religion, political, ethnic, or social origin, property, disability, birth, or other status.

- A. Right to be Born and be Given a Name.** The City Government of Bacoor, through the Office of the City Civil Registry, in accordance with its prevailing programs and services, shall ensure that every child born has a name and nationality constitutive of their identity, which shall be registered after birth.
- B. Right to be Strong and Healthy.** The City Government of Bacoor shall ensure a standard of living attuned to the health and well-being of all children, including food and proper nutrition. With access to programs, services, and projects of the Office of the City Health Services (OCHS), Gender and Development, Bacoor City Nutrition Office, Local Youth Development Office (LYDO), Sports Development Unit, Office of the Population Development, and other offices and departments in the City Government of Bacoor, which by law are mandated for the protection and promotion of the health, care, education, livelihood, and development of children.
- C. Right to Abode.** The City Government of Bacoor shall earnestly venture through the Housing, Urban



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Development and Resettlement Department (HUDRD) to provide decent, safe, and socialized housing for all.

D. Right to Live in a Clean, Peaceful, and Safe Environment.

The City Government of Bacoor, through the City Environment Service Department (CESD), Bacoor Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (BDRRM), Department of Public Safety (BPSU), City Task Force on Abatement, Clearing, and Preservation of Public Spaces (ACPOPS), and City Bacoor Traffic Management Department (BTMD), in coordination with the Philippine National Police (PNP)-Bacoor City, shall recognize the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature and shall ensure that all children enjoy a safe, clean, peaceful, and livable environment conducive to their growth and development.

E. Right to Education.

The City Government of Bacoor recognizes the paramount right of every child to education. Access to basic education enables the child to gain skills and confidence that enable them to think on their own and strengthen their right to participation in local governance on matters affecting their well-being. Thus, it shall ensure that schools and learning environments are conducive to the education of children. Teachers and learning facilitators of the Early Childhood Care and Development Service Unit under the Office of Social Welfare and Development (CSWD) and other child learning centers of the City Government of Bacoor shall give their best efforts in discharging their functions with the best interest of the child as the primary consideration. Further, the City Government of Bacoor, through the Department of Education – City Schools Division of Bacoor, promotes inclusive education, ensuring that children of all backgrounds—including those with disabilities, indigenous learners, and marginalize groups—receive equal opportunities to learn.

F. Right to Play.

The right to play is a child's basic right. On account thereof, the City Government of Bacoor shall give highest priority to the formulation and enactment of measures for the creation of



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public parks and recreation centers and encourage the private business entities and sectoral cooperation for the full realization of such right.

- G. Right to Enhance Talents and Interests.** To help children fully develop their personalities, talents, and interests, the City Government of Bacoor, through its Bacoor City Culture, History, Arts, and Tourism Office (BCHATO), Local Youth Development Office (LYDO), and the Sports Development Unit, in coordination with the Department of Education – City School Division of Bacoor, shall establish a system of measures to help children cultivate their talents and interests to enable them to attain their full potential as valuable treasures of the society. Further, Articles 12 and 13 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) are foundational in affirming children's rights to freely express their views and to be heard and respected.

- a. Right to Be Heard (Article 12, UNCRC).** Children who are capable of forming their own views have the right to express those views freely in all matters affecting them. Their views must be given due weight according to their age and maturity. This includes the right to be heard in judicial and administrative proceedings, either directly or through a representative.
- b. Freedom of Expression (Article 13, UNCRC).** Children have the right to freedom of expression, which includes (i) seeking, receiving, and imparting information and ideas of all kinds, (ii) through any media of the child's voice—whether spoken, written, artistic, or digital. This right may be subject to certain restrictions, but only as necessary to respect others' rights or protect national security, public order, or public health.

- H. Right to have a Caring Family.** The City Government of Bacoor, through the Office of Social Welfare and Development, with the encouraged participation of all sectors, whether private or public, shall formulate and develop



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programs and services aimed towards sustenance for a nurturing family for children.

- I. **Right to Learn Proper and Good Behavior.** The City Government of Bacoor recognizes the role of parents and caregivers in shaping the proper and good behavior of our children. It shall inculcate in their minds the value of patriotism, service, integrity, excellence, humility, and the long-standing cultural practices and traditions, and history of the city and its people.
- J. **Right to be Supported by the Government.** The City Government of Bacoor shall promote an inclusive governmental approach in all matters affecting the well-being of the child. Thus, with the foremost participation of all concerned stakeholders and of the different departments or units of the City Government of Bacoor, aimed towards the advancement of the best interest of the child, shall create programs and services in support of the development and well-being of the child.

SECTION 5. CHILD PROTECTION POLICY PROTOCOLS. –

The City Government of Bacoor hereby adopts a system of protocols and procedures governing child protection policy to ensure that all stakeholders are active participants in the promotion of children's welfare consistent with the framework of upholding the best interest of the child, with emphasis on building and strengthening a multi-level child protection system for children who are at risk, victims of child trafficking, children with disabilities, children in conflict with the law, disadvantaged and vulnerable to abuse, and victims of all forms of abuse, discrimination, violence, and neglect.

Thus, to ensure effective coordination of the different departments and offices of government, people's organizations, private enterprises, business establishments and institutions, non-government organizations, faith-based groups, and offices of government promoting child's rights, protection, and welfare or otherwise mandated by law for the care and protection of children, particularly in the areas of education, health, labor, recreation, moral development, and wherever the child may be, the following protocols, systems, and procedures shall be observed:

- A. **Children in School.** Children inside school premises/classrooms during school days/hours



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shall be governed by the Department of Education (DepEd) Order No. 40 series of 2012 otherwise known as the "DepEd Child Protection Policy" and DepEd Order No. 18, Series of 2015 otherwise known as "the DepEd Guidelines and Procedures on the Management of Children-at-risk (CAR) and Children in Conflict with the Law (CICL)" during all time that children are inside school premises/classrooms whether public or private in all primary and secondary schools in the City of Bacoor wherever they may be located. Thus, teachers and learning facilitators shall have a standard system of reporting, referrals, recording, and evaluation on all cases of child abuse, violence, exploitation, discrimination, and other acts of child abuse in all primary and secondary schools in the City of Bacoor, using as a basis the DepEd Circulars.

Furthermore, teachers, school administrators, and other individuals engaged in childcare are mandated by law to exercise Special Parental Authority over the child while under their custody, instruction, and supervision. Accordingly, they shall exercise a rigid stance against all forms of child abuse, violence, and discrimination.

- B. Children in Business Establishments and Enterprises within the City of Bacoor.** Eradication of all forms of child labor, child abuse, discrimination, and violence against children is hereby declared the policy of the City Government of Bacoor, having in mind the best interest of the child. To achieve this aim, children below fifteen (15) years of age shall not be employed, unless such employment is exempt under Section 2 of R.A. No. 9231, otherwise known as "An Act Providing for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor and Affording Stronger Protection for the Working Child."

Relative thereto, owners/officers/managers/administrators of business establishments in the City of Bacoor shall have a zero-tolerance policy for all forms of child abuse, violence, and exploitation.

Consequently, children shall be discouraged and/or prohibited from entering malls, places of hospitality such as hotels, motels, inns, and any



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other business establishments and enterprises in the City of Bacoor during all times that they are expected to be in school or during school hours except after school hours, in the company of his/her parents or legal guardian for the purpose of securing pertinent documents, identification documents, identification cards, and other relevant documents, provided that such office/s are stationed in malls or in the business or commercial establishments.

Except further, that for the purpose of medical and dental treatment and consultations or for health and dental emergencies, in instances where the health and medical clinics and laboratories are situated or stationed in malls or in said business establishments, children may, during school hours, be permitted to enter such places. Provided further that children whose classes are held in malls and other business establishments in furtherance of the hybrid learning setup, or even those that are fully online classes that are held in such malls or any other business establishments other than those established regular school places may be permitted.

School administrators and learning facilitators should inform the City Council for the Protection of Children (CCPC), addressed to the Chairperson of such CCPC.

Furthermore, to determine whether it has taken proper precautions to prevent all forms of abuse and violence against children in their respective establishments or what safeguards it has put in place to prevent the occurrence of all forms of abuse and violence against children, a quarterly assessment and evaluation report shall be made by the owners/officers/administrators of the business establishments and enterprises, to be submitted and addressed directly to the Chairperson through the Secretariat of the City Council for the Protection of Children (CCPC).

- C. Directing all Business Establishments/Enterprises Operating Within the City of Bacoor to Formulate their Own Child Protection Policy.** As a policy, all business establishments and enterprises operating and/or doing business in the City of Bacoor shall



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develop, formulate, and promulgate their own respective child protection policies and protocols in consonance with the policies herein set forth, adaptive to a system of prior risk assessment, referral, reporting, recording, and evaluation of all cases of abuse, violence, exploitation, and discrimination of children. To ensure its compliance, all business establishments and enterprises shall furnish the Secretariat of the City Council for the Protection of Children (CCPC), addressed to the CCPC Chairperson, a copy of their respective Child Protection Policy, to be submitted on or before the month of December of the year 2025. A review panel/team shall then be instituted by the office of the Chairperson to evaluate, lay out guidelines, and assess whether the Child Protection Policy of a business establishment/enterprise adheres to or is compliant with the specified requirements and parameters set or prescribed by the reviewing panel/team.

In general, the Child Protection Policy of all business establishments/enterprises shall at least include the following:

- A declaration that clearly signifies its strong commitment to the Child Protection Policies of the City Government of Bacoor;
- Recruitment and Screening Procedures for Children;
- Reporting and responding mechanisms for suspected cases of child abuse, neglect, violence, and exploitation;
- Employees' comprehensive training program on the promotion of Children's Rights and Child Protection;
- Regular review of the Child Protection Policy.

D. Children in Recreational Facilities and Sports Development and Training Centers within the City of Bacoor. Recreational facilities and sports development, and training centers are herein declared child-friendly spaces. Necessary interventions by the City Government of Bacoor, through its relevant departments and offices, shall expand children's access to safe environments and promote their psychosocial well-being. Thus, the Local Youth and Development Office (LYDO)



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and/or Sports Development Unit shall formulate and promulgate child protection policy protocols and post the same within three (3) conspicuous places in the premises of said recreational facility or training center. Standard policies and protocols with respect to reporting, referrals, recording, and evaluation of all cases of abuse, whether sexual, physical, or emotional abuse, violence, exploitation, and discrimination of children committed within the recreational and training facilities, shall likewise be posted.

- E. Children in Recreational Facilities and Training Centers Operated by Private Entities.** Business entities engaged in the provision of recreational facilities and training centers for children within the City of Bacoor shall promulgate their own rules, policies, and procedures for safeguards in preventing cases of abuse and violence against children. They shall likewise adopt a system of reporting, referrals, and evaluation relative to such cases in the recreational activities and training environment. Further, recreational facilities and training centers shall furnish the Secretariat of the City Council for the Protection of Children (CCPC), addressed to the Chairperson, a copy of their duly promulgated Child Protection Policy Protocols.
- F. Children in Conflict with the Law under the Care, Rehabilitation, and Custody of the Office of Social Welfare and Development (CSWDO).** The Office of Social Welfare and Development (CSWDO) shall formulate its own child protection policy for children below fifteen (15) years of age or above fifteen but not more than eighteen (18) years of age who have been charged in court or are undergoing trial for the commission of a crime and are currently under the rehabilitation and diversion program or are otherwise undergoing a community intervention program. In such a case, it shall formulate an aftercare or reintegration program for all cases they handle, including livelihood training to uplift the children's moral and economic well-being.

- G. Abused Children.** The children under the care of the Office of Social Welfare and Development (CSWDO), rescued under its authority and jurisdiction, shall be governed by its policies,



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procedures, and regulations. The Office of Social Welfare and Development (CSWDO) shall also serve as the repository authority of all data gathered and processed in such cases.

H. Abandoned, Neglected, Rejected, and Surrendered Children. The City Government of Bacoor, through the Office of Social Welfare and Development (CSWDO), shall develop and formulate child protection policies, including safeguards and mechanisms against abandonment, neglect, rejection, and surrender.

I. Emergency Relief and Protection for Children Before, During, and After Disasters. The City Government of Bacoor, through the Bacoor Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (BDRRM), shall formulate a Comprehensive Emergency Protection Program for Children (CEPPC), independent of the declaration of a state of calamity and/or emergency in the aftermath of disasters or calamities. It shall ensure that the program interventions set forth in the CEPPC shall be included in the City's Annual Investment Plan, Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Plan, Local Council for the Protection of Children Plan, and other applicable local plans. They shall be provided with sufficient resources in the annual budget to ensure their implementation.

J. Health Care for Children. The enjoyment of the highest attainable standards of health care is one of the emphases of the City Government of Bacoor. As such, health care and nutrition programs for children shall be given the highest priority, with foremost participation of the Office of the City Health Service (OCHS) and the Office of Social Welfare and Development (CSWDO), in close coordination with the Department of Education – City Schools Division, Bacoor. The Barangay Health Centers shall be at the forefront of providing the health care needs of children.

Consequently, the Office of the City Health Service (OCHS) shall formulate its own policy and protocols with regard to the prioritization of children in the health care services.



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CITY OF BACOR

Office of the Sangguniang Panlungsod



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HON. PALM ANGEL S. BUNCIO
SK Federation President

Attested by:

ATTY. KHALID A. ATEGA, JR.
Sangguniang Panlungsod Secretary

Certified by:

HON. REYNALDO D. PALABRICA
Acting Presiding Officer

Approved by:

HON. STRIKE B. REVILLA
City Mayor

K. Protection of Children in Resettlement Sites. The City Government of Bacoor, through the Housing, Urban Development and Resettlement Department (HUDRD) and the Office of Social Welfare and Development (CSWDO), shall initiate measures to:

- Ensure that children are safe and protected from all harm and possible abuse, exploitation, neglect, and maltreatment during and after resettlement;
- Immediately put in place all relief measures, medical facilities, psychosocial services, documentation of evictees to prevent displacement or family separation, and similar assistance in partnership with relevant government agencies;
- Involve relocated families, including children, in developing resettlement action plans; and
- Adopt and enhance the current protocol and code of conduct for all government and non-government frontliners for handling children during emergencies and resettlement.

L. Other Places. In all places other than those specifically enumerated above, the well-being and best interests of children shall be given the paramount consideration.

Article One DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

SECTION 6. CITY COUNCIL FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN (CCPC). – Pursuant to Executive Order No. 51-2024, Series of 2024, the City Council for the Protection of Children (CCPC) of the City of Bacoor, and under the provisions of Republic Act (R.A) No. 9344, also known as the "Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act of 2006," as amended, shall function as the primary coordinating body responsible for the planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of child protection programs, making the City of Bacoor child-friendly. It shall be the main body responsible for coordinating programs with different stakeholders to address child



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protection issues, discrimination, and violence against children.

It shall ensure the compliance of the private sector, including business establishments, small and medium-sized and family-owned enterprises, non-governmental organizations, and civil society organizations, as well as the public sector, including the City Government and national government agencies operating in the city.

SECTION 7. BARANGAY COUNCIL FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN (BCPC). – The BCPC shall be responsible for the planning and implementation of activities on child protection at the barangay level. It shall encourage the performance of duties and responsibilities of parents and provide learning opportunities on the proper rearing of children and harmonious parent-child relationships.

Anent thereto, it shall formulate and develop a referral, monitoring, and reporting mechanism of children's situations and shall keep a logbook for that purpose.

SECTION 8. CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEES IN SCHOOL. – The City Government of Bacoor, through the City Council for the Protection of Children (CCPC), shall coordinate with the Child Protection Committee in every school for the prevention and response initiatives. Great effort shall be made to mitigate, lessen, and, if possible, eliminate all cases of child abuse, violence, and discrimination.

SECTION 9. PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF PHYSICAL AND HUMILIATING PUNISHMENT AS A FORM OF DISCIPLINE ON CHILDREN. – Positive discipline, as a non-violent approach to help and guide children and develop their positive behavior, shall be promoted at all times. Respect for the sanctity of the home shall be maintained, and coordinated efforts shall be made to ensure that the basic and primordial duty of parents and/or guardians to shape positive behavior begins with them.

Corporal and humiliating punishment shall be discouraged at all times.

The City Government of Bacoor recognizes the vital role of children and the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual,



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intellectual, and social well-being. Children have the right to be protected from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, and maltreatment or exploitation as a form of discipline while in the care of parents, legal guardians, or any other person who has the care of the children. Such treatment or punishment violates the children's rights and physical integrity.

As such, the CCPC and BCPC shall:

- Promote positive and non-violent discipline of children at home, in school, in institutions, in alternative care systems, and in all other settings, establish the necessary structures and mechanisms, and mobilize resources to make this possible.
- Defend the right of children to assistance, including proper care and nutrition, and accord them special protection from all forms of neglect, abuse, exploitation, and other conditions prejudicial to their development;
- Promote the best interests of children through measures that will ensure the protection of children.
- Protect the children from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury from abuse, neglect, or negligent treatment, maltreatment, or exploitation while in the custody of their parents, guardians, or any other person under whose care the children are entrusted. Such protective measures shall include effective procedures for the establishment of social protection programs to provide necessary support for the children and for those who care for them, other forms of prevention, identification, reporting, referral, investigation, treatment, and follow-up of instances of child maltreatment and, as appropriate, for legal or judicial action;
- Respect the responsibilities, rights, and duties of parents, guardians, or other persons legally responsible for the children, including those exercising special or substitute parental authority as provided for under Presidential Decree (P.D.) No. 603, otherwise known as the "Child and Youth Welfare Code," and the Republic Act (R.A.) No.



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7610, as amended, to provide, in a manner consistent with the evolving capacities of the children, appropriate direction and guidance in the exercise of the children's rights; and the Family Code of the Philippines or Executive Order (E.O.) No. 209 Series of 1987;

- f. Provide an enabling environment for parents to empower themselves and fulfill their parental obligations to discipline their children through positive and non-violent discipline means.
- g. Ensure that school discipline is administered in a manner that respects the children's human dignity; and
- h. Promote the principles of restorative justice in cases involving parents/guardians and other adults caring for children.

SECTION 10. CHILD AND GENDER SENSITIVITY TRAINING.

– City social workers, city social welfare and development Workers, health workers, teachers and parents, and other concerned service providers are required to attend training courses on child and gender sensitivity to be conducted by the City Council for the Protection of Children (CCPC) in coordination with the Gender and Development (GAD) to enhance and reinforce their knowledge and capability on the protection of children.

SECTION 11. CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR MEMBERS OF THE LCPC.

– To enable the LCPC and BCPC to effectively perform their respective duties and responsibilities, the City Government of Bacoor may implement capability-building programs and initiatives, which may include training, seminars, and conferences.

Article Two REPORTING, RECORDING, AND CONFIDENTIALITY OF RECORDS

SECTION 12. REPORTING AND RECORDING. – Reports on all cases of abuse and violence against children should be



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done in a detailed manner using plain language and shall be certified by the person authorized to prepare them. The certification must contain a statement that he/she has read and understood the contents thereof and that the facts/records therein are true and correct based on his/her own personal knowledge and on authentic records in his/her possession.

All business establishments/enterprises shall then submit such report to the CCPC Secretariat addressed to its Chairperson within a period of twenty-four (24) hours from the time of the discovery of any crime, violence, and abuse committed against children.

The CCPC Secretariat shall thereafter enter the report in the Book of Records, and it shall ensure that the documents attached to the said report are properly kept.

SECTION 13. CONFIDENTIALITY OF RECORDS. – All reports and records submitted to the CCPC Secretariat shall always be kept confidential and may not be released, except for compelling reasons or with the express consent of the data subject or his/her parents or through a court order.

SECTION 14. SEAL OF CHILD-FRIENDLY BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENT, AWARDS, AND RECOGNITION. – The City Government of Bacoor shall give a Seal of Child-Friendly Business Establishment/Enterprise Award (SCFBEA) to all business establishments/enterprises operating and/or doing business within the City of Bacoor that have developed, formulated, promulgated, and implemented their own Child Protection Policy in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance as recognition for their steadfast and valuable commitment in making the City of Bacoor the most livable city for children.

Business establishments/enterprises that are not compliant with the provisions of this Ordinance shall not be entitled to receive the aforementioned award but shall, however, be directed to comply with the provisions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 15. INSTITUTION OF MECHANISMS, COMPOSITION OF THE AUDIT TEAM, CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES FOR THE CONDUCT OF BACOR CITY CHILD-FRIENDLY BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENT AUDIT (BCCFEA)



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DOCUMENTATION AND MODELING OF BEST PRACTICES. – To carry out the purposes of this Ordinance, a mechanism, composition of the Audit Team, criteria, and procedures for the conduct of the Child-Friendly Business Establishment Audit shall be established.

For this purpose, the CCPC-Technical Management Committee (TMC), in consultation with any and all members of the Council, shall effect the setting up of the mechanisms, criteria, and procedures, as well as determine all requirements and perform necessary acts to ensure its effective implementation. If necessary, it shall facilitate the issuance of an Executive Order to carry out the objective of this provision.

Moreover, the City Council for the Protection of Children (CCPC), through the Audit Team, shall conduct documentation and modeling of the best practices of business establishments that, in one way or another, have exemplified their unyielding commitment to making the City of Bacoor the most livable and child-friendly city for children.

SECTION 16. SCHEDULE OF AUDIT. – The Bacoor City Child-Friendly Business Establishment Audit (BCCFBEA) shall be held annually, specifically during the last quarter of each year. The first schedule of audit shall be for the period from January to June, and the second shall be for the period from July to December of the year and for every year thereafter. The conduct of the audit on the business establishment shall be chosen randomly by the audit team.

SECTION 17. COMPOSITION OF THE AUDIT TEAM. – The composition of the audit team shall be appointed by the Chairperson of the CCPC through an Executive Order issued for the purpose. The Office of the City Legal Service (OCLS) shall be chosen as a member of the Audit Team.

SECTION 18. ALLOWANCE. – Members of the audit team shall not be entitled to any allowance for every audit conducted.

SECTION 19. MONITORING AND EVALUATION. – A mechanism shall be established by the City Council for the Protection of Children (CCPC) to monitor all offices, agencies, and institutions in the implementation of projects,



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programs, and activities related to child welfare and protection. The Local Chief Executive, as the CCPC Chairperson, is hereby given the authority to commence the conduct of monitoring and deputize City Government of Bacoor offices and personnel, if necessary.

SECTION 20. PENALTY. – Any business establishment or enterprise operating and/or doing business within the City of Bacoor, violating or failing to comply with the provisions of paragraph B under Section 5 hereof, shall be meted out with the following penalty:

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| First Offense | Fine of Five Thousand Pesos (Php5,000.00) |
| Second Offense | Imprisonment of not more than one (1) year, or both fine and imprisonment at the discretion of the court |
| Third and Final Offense | Fine, imprisonment, and revocation of Business Permit |

SECTION 21. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS – The Office of the City Social Welfare and Development, with the assistance of the Office of the City Legal Service, Office of the City Health Services, Bacoor Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office, City Bacoor Traffic Management Department, Office of the City Civil Registry, City Environment Service Department, Office of the Population Department, Sports Development Unit, Bacoor City Culture, History, Arts, and Tourism Office, Housing Urban Development and Resettlement Department, Department of Public Safety, Department of Education-City Schools Division Office of Bacoor, Philippine National Police – Bacoor City, and the Local Youth Development Office shall submit the proposed Implementing Rules and Regulations draft of this Ordinance for the review and approval of the City Mayor not later than sixty (60) days from the effectivity date hereof.

SECTION 22. MODIFYING CLAUSE. – All ordinances, orders, resolutions, and rules inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby modified accordingly.

SECTION 23. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. – Any provision of this Ordinance not declared void or unconstitutional by the proper court of law shall remain valid.



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City Mayor

SECTION 24. EFFECTIVITY. – This Ordinance shall take effect immediately after it has been published once in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Bacoor, Cavite, and posted in at least two (2) conspicuous places in the City of Bacoor.

ENACTED this 24th day of February 2025 at the City of Bacoor, Cavite by the 5th Sangguniang Panlungsod.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was approved in accordance with law.

Certified:

HON. REYNALDO D. PALABRICA
Acting Presiding Officer

Attested:

ATTY. KHALID A. ATEGA JR.
Sangguniang Panlungsod Secretary

Approved:

HON. STRIKE B. REVILLA
City Mayor

Date Approved: 14 AUG 2025



27 City Ordinance No. 426-2025, (Bacoor City Child Protection Policy Ordinance) 24 February 2025