

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Policy Statement

Treetops School International Charter School

Treetops School International is committed to maintaining a safe, clean, and healthy environment for students, staff, and visitors. The school follows an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach in accordance with Texas regulations, emphasizing prevention and the least hazardous methods for controlling pests.

IPM Coordinator

Due to the school's size, the **Campus Director or designated staff member** will serve as the IPM Coordinator. Responsibilities include:

- Keeping basic records of pest sightings and treatments
- Serving as the point of contact for pest control services
- Ensuring staff follow prevention practices

Prevention Practices

Because prevention is the most effective and low-cost strategy, staff will:

- Keep classrooms and common areas clean and free of food debris
- Store food in sealed containers
- Remove trash daily and maintain clean dumpsters
- Report maintenance issues such as leaks, cracks, or gaps

Monitoring and Reporting

- Staff will report pest sightings to the IPM Coordinator
- The Coordinator will monitor problem areas and determine if action is needed
- A simple log (google doc) will be maintained for pest activity

Pest Control Methods

- Non-chemical methods (cleaning, sealing entry points, traps) will be used first
- If needed, a **licensed pest control professional** will be contracted
- Pesticides will only be used when necessary and applied according to label directions and Texas law

Notification

- Required notices will be provided to staff and parents before pesticide applications, as applicable
- Treated areas will be posted when pesticides are used

Recordkeeping

- The school will maintain basic records of pest control services and pesticide applications as required by Texas regulations (e.g., **Texas Administrative Code §7.114**)