

**PROTECTING CHILD VICTIMS OF ABUSE AND NEGLECT****Category:** Health and Safety**Effective:** August 2016**Policy Statement**

The mandatory reporting and intervention in suspected child abuse and neglect situations is limited to children under the age of nineteen and to disabled children under the age of nineteen.

Reporting of children between sixteen and nineteen should occur with their consent.

Parental consent is not required for advising Child Protection Services of suspected abuse or neglect.

Procedures

1. All District employees shall familiarize themselves with the guidelines on child abuse and neglect.
2. The adult suspecting abuse or neglect shall contact the Child Protection Services Branch of Department of Social Development.
3. A report filed by telephone shall be followed by a dated timely written report (see *link below*); a copy of which must be kept in a secure file in the school. An accurate record of details is necessary should the employee be required to give evidence in court.
4. The Principal shall refer to Policy 701 if the suspected abuse/neglect occurs within the school.
5. The Principal shall ensure the security and safety of the student from the alleged perpetrator.
6. The Principal or designate shall remain with the student until the Social Worker arrives.
7. The Principal or designate shall contact the police to take the child into secure care if the Social Worker cannot arrive before the end of the school day.

Reference

- [Family Services Act](#)
- [Child Victims of Abuse and Neglect Protocol NB](#) (March 2005) – Form Page 132
- Department of Education and Early Childhood Development [Policy 701: Policy for the Protection of Pupils](#)