

Preventing and Reporting Abuse

Your roll in keeping students safe

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Mandatory Reporting

Saturday Academy employees are mandatory reporters of child abuse and are required to immediately report suspected abuse to the Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) or law enforcement.



What is abuse?

Neglect Physical Abuse Sexual Abuse Threats and Mental Abuse



What to keep an eye out for

- Physical injuries (non accidental bruises, burns, cuts)
- Visible neglect
- Malnourishment
- Rotten teeth
- Lengthy unexplained absences
- Leaving a child under 10 home alone
- Always asking for food
- Severe mood changes
- Afraid to leave
- Issues with bathroom



Physical Abuse

Any assault, as defined in ORS chapter 163, of a child and any physical injury to a child which has been caused by other than accidental means, including any injury which appears to be at variance with the explanation given of the injury. "Abuse" does not include reasonable discipline



Sexual Abuse

- Rape
- Unlawful penetration
- Incest
- Sexual Exploitation
- Sexual Harassment
- Exposing minors to explicit material or language
- Any sexual contact between a minor and adult



Mental Injury or Threats

Any mental injury to a child, which shall include only observable and substantial impairment of the child's mental or psychological ability to function caused by cruelty to the child, with due regard to the culture of the child.

Threatened harm to a child, which means subjecting a child to a substantial risk of harm to the child's health or welfare



Suspect Abuse or Neglect?

Reporting Hotline: 855-503-7233

Even if you report abuse to a manager or school employee you are still required to call the hotline



Responding to a child

Tell the child that you believe them and that you are going to contact people who can help.

You need only suspect abuse to make a report, so don't press the child for details.

The child will need to tell his/her story in detail later.



Common Questions:

- 1. Will my report be confidential?
- 2. Can I be sued?
- 3. What happens if I don't report?
- 4. What happens after I report?
- 5. Do I have to report out of state abuse?



Want More Information?

For more information about child abuse and neglect, visit the Oregon Department of Human Services webpage at: http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/abuse/pages/main.aspx

For more information and to view DHS's video about being a mandatory reporter, go to: <u>http://www.oregon.gov/dhs/abuse/pages/mandatory_report.aspx</u>



It is your responsibility to keep our students safe

www.saturdayacademy.org

... follow your curiosity!