



Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Policy

Child abuse is the mistreatment of a child under the age of 18. Anyone may report suspected child abuse or neglect, however, state law mandates that workers in certain professions must make reports if they have reasonable cause to suspect abuse or neglect.

School personnel are mandated reporters. If making a good faith report of suspected child abuse or neglect, they are immune from any liability, civic or criminal, as a result of such a report. A report of abuse or neglect is made to the **Child Abuse Hotline** (800) 25-ABUSE, (800) 252-2873, or (217) 524-2606. TTY (800) 358-5117. The Hotline is located at the Department's State Central Register in Springfield.

The school nurse may observe signs of suspected child abuse and neglect when providing services to students, or may be asked to verify symptoms of suspected abuse or neglect which have been observed by other school personnel.