

REPORTING CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT

Any school employee having reason to suspect that a child is being or has been abused or neglected shall immediately report his/her suspicions to the New Hampshire Division for Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) and the building Principal and or Designee. The Principal and/or Designee shall then immediately notify the Gilford Police Department. The Principal and/or Designee will then notify the Superintendent within twenty-four (24) hours that a report to DCYF has been made.

The reporting employee, within twenty-four hours (24), must follow the oral report with a written report. The report should contain the name and address of the child suspected of being abused or neglected; the person responsible for the child's welfare; the specific information indicating neglect/abuse or the nature and extent of the child's injuries (including any evidence of previous injuries); the identity of the person or persons suspected of being responsible for such neglect or abuse; and any other information that might be helpful in establishing neglect or abuse that may be required by DCYF. The reporting employee shall provide the building Principal and/or Designee a signed copy of the written report. The Principal will submit the written report to the Superintendent or Designee within forty eight (48) hours.

The School Board requires all School District employees receive routine training or information on how to identify child abuse or neglect.

It is not the responsibility of the school employee to investigate whether the child has been abused or neglected.

The Principal and/or Designee of each school shall post a sign in a clearly visible location in a public area within the school that is readily accessible to students, in the form provided by DCYF that contains instructions on how to report child abuse or neglect, including the phone number for filing reports and information on accessing DCYF's website.

Legal References:

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.04(a)(10), Reporting of Suspected Abuse or Neglect
RSA 169-C:29, Persons Required to Report
RSA 169-C:30, Nature and Content of Report
RSA 169-C:31, Immunity from Liability
RSA 169-C:34, III, Duties of the Department of Health and Human Services
RSA 189:72, Child Abuse or Neglect Information

(Adopted: 9/9/1985)

(Revised: 11/4/2013, 9/4/2018)