

REPORTING CHILD ABUSE

Background

Every person who has reason to believe that a child needs protection under Section 13 of the *Child, Family and Community Services Act* must promptly report to a child protection social worker.

Procedures

1. If an employee suspects that a student has been or is likely to be physically, sexually or emotionally abused or neglected, or otherwise in need of protection under the Act, they must follow the District protocols and procedures: *Responding to Alleged Abuse and Neglect of Students by Non-District Employees*.
 - 1.1. Guidance and clarification can be provided by the employee's supervisor and/or the District Principal, SEL/Prevention.
2. If an employee suspects that a student has been or is likely to be physically or sexually abused by a District employee, they must follow the District protocols and procedures: *Interagency Protocol and VSB Procedures for Reporting and Investigating Alleged Physical and/or Sexual abuse of Students by Vancouver School Board Employees*.
 - 2.1. The District has a responsibility to investigate any allegations of physical and/or sexual abuse of student(s) by a District employee. The District investigation will occur in consultation with the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) and the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) or the local delegated Indigenous child and family service agency as directed by the interagency protocols and District procedures.
 - 2.2. Guidance and clarification can be provided by the employee's supervisor and/or the District Principal, SEL/Prevention.

Reference: Sections 7, 9, 15, 16, 17, 20, 22, 65, 79, 85, 177 School Act
Section 13, 14 Child, Family and Community Services Act
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
Section 32.2 Health Profession Act
Section 27.1 Teacher Profession Act
Criminal Code of Canada
B.C. Handbook for Action on Child Abuse and Neglect –For Service Providers, 2007
Responding to Child Welfare Concerns, 2007
Responding to Child Welfare Concerns – Your Role in Knowing When and What to Report
Interagency Protocol for Reporting and Investigation of Child Abuse and Neglect
Delegated Aboriginal Child and Family Services Agency Protocol
Criminal Code of Canada
BCTF Code of Ethics

Adopted: April 1975

Revised: September 1994; January 1999; June 2009; February 2011; September 24, 2018