

# CHILD ABUSE

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In the event that you suspect a case of abuse or neglect in a student, please visit with the counselor, Elisa Krug, right away. You will be responsible for making the report. It can be done online, and Elisa can help you navigate the system. Below are the professional responsibilities you have regarding suspicion of abuse:

## **Reporting Abuse and Neglect:**

Texas law says anyone who thinks a child, or person 65 years or older, or an adult with disabilities is being abused, neglected, or exploited must report it to DFPS.

A person who reports abuse in good faith is immune from civil or criminal liability. DFPS keeps the name of the person making the report confidential. Anyone who does not report suspected abuse can be held liable for a misdemeanor or felony.

Reporting suspected abuse makes it possible for a family to get help.

## **Types of Abuse:**

There are four major types of child maltreatment: physical abuse, neglect, sexual abuse, and emotional abuse.

You can learn more about recognizing and reporting these at:

[http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child\\_Protection/Child\\_Safety/recognize\\_abuse.asp](http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Protection/Child_Safety/recognize_abuse.asp)

This site is also a guide to the reporting procedures which can be done by phone at **1-800-252-5400** or by creating an online account and reporting online. The School Counselor can also assist in the reporting process if you have any questions.