

What Must Be Reported?

Abused Child

Defined as any child under the age of 18 who has had physical injury or injuries inflicted upon by him/her by a person responsible for his or her health, welfare, or care by a person given access to the child by the responsible person other than by accidental means or has injuries which are at variance with the history given of them, or is in a condition which is the result of maltreatment such as, but not limited to, malnutrition, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, deprivation of necessities, emotional abuse, and neglected. [17-38a (b) and 17-53].

Neglected Child

Defined as child under 18 who has been abandoned, or is being denied proper care and attention, physically, emotionally or morally, or is being permitted to live under conditions, circumstances or associations injurious to his/her well being or has been abused [17-73].

Child Under 13 with VD

A physician or facility must report to the Commissioner of DCF on the consultation, examination, and treatment of venereal disease of any child not more than 12 years old [19a-216].

Staff Member Suspects Abuse or Neglect

1. Staff member immediately informs DCF while concurrently informing principal and police of suspicion of abuse or neglect. Student Assistance Team Members may be involved.
2. Principal or designee consults with DCF and police regarding informing parent of referral.
3. Staff member files Form DCF 136 to DCF within 48 hours.
4. Staff member files copy of Form DCF 136 with the school principal.

Principal or designee consults with Student Assistance Team members and DCF personnel to determine any further action to be taken in the student's best interest.

DCF and police investigates.

Principal or designee follows-up with DCF.

DCF and police follows-up with school.

Principal and Student Assistance Team monitors situation as necessary.

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

*A summary
of your responsibilities as a
Mandated Reporter*



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Summary of Legal Requirements Concerning Child Abuse-Neglect

Policy of State of Connecticut

To protect children whose health and welfare may be adversely affected through injury and neglect; to strengthen the family and to make the home safe for children by enhancing the parental capacity for good child care; to provide a temporary or permanent nurturing and safe environment for children when necessary and for these purposes to require the reporting of suspected child abuse, investigation of such reports by a social agency, and provision of services where needed, to such a child and family. [17-3a]

Summary of Legal Requirements Concerning Child Abuse-Neglect

Battered Women's Counselors * Chiropractor * Clergymen * Dental Hygienists * Dentists * Licensed Martial and Family Therapist * Licensed or Unlicensed Resident Interns * Licensed or Unlicensed Resident Physicians * Licensed Physicians * Licensed Practical Nurses * Licensed Substance Abuse Counselors * Licensed Surgeons * Medical Examiners * Mental Health Professionals * Optometrists * Osteopaths * Pharmacists * Physical Therapists * Physician Assistants * Podiatrists * Police Officers * Psychologists * Registered Nurses * School Guidance Counselors * School Paraprofessionals * School Principals * School Teachers * Sexual Assault Counselors * Social Workers

** Any person paid to care for a child in a public or private facility, day care center, or family day care home which is licensed by the state.

Your Responsibility

As a mandated reporter you **must**

- * report all suspected abuse and neglect to DCF
- * Phone: 1.800.842.2288

As a member of the Branford Public School staff you must:

1. Make an oral report **IMMEDIATELY** to:
 - * Department of Children and Families (DCF) **and**
 - * the Branford Police Department **or**
 - * the State Police
2. File a written report with DCF within 48 hours of the oral report, using Form DCF-136.
3. Notify the school principal or designee and provide him/her with a copy of the DCF-136 referral.

Your Principal will...

1. inform the Superintendent
2. determine what other school employees should be informed
3. confer with reporter, DCF, and police regarding informing parents of referral
4. consult with Student Assistance Team (SAT) members as appropriate

DCF will...

1. investigate as appropriate
2. inform the reporter of investigation
3. follow-up with appropriate school staff
4. receive the referral and advise regarding any actions to be taken

Police will...

1. investigate as appropriate
2. identify, collect, and preserve any evidence
3. follow-up with DCF, school witnesses, and family
4. determine if any criminal action is warranted