

Kingsport City Schools

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in May	Descriptor Term: Child Abuse and Neglect	Descriptor Code: 6.409	Issued Date: 02/03/11
		Rescinds:	Issued:

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REPORTING

All personnel shall be alert for any evidence of child abuse or neglect.

Child abuse exists when a person under the age of eighteen is suffering from, has sustained or may be in immediate danger of suffering from or sustaining a wound, injury, disability or physical or mental condition caused by brutality, neglect or other actions or inactions. Neglect occurs when a child's health and welfare is adversely affected due to inadequate care. Staff members who know or suspect that any child is suffering from abuse or neglect shall report such harm immediately. The Superintendent shall establish and disseminate procedures for reporting child abuse or neglect and the investigation process.

INVESTIGATIONS

School administrators and employees have a duty to cooperate, render assistance and provide information in child abuse investigations. Child-abuse review teams may conduct interviews while the child is at school. The principal may determine the time, place and circumstances of the interview, but shall not require a school employee to be present, even if the suspected abuser is a school employee or another student. The principal is not in violation of any laws by not informing parents that the child is to be interviewed, even if the suspected abuser is not a member of the child's household.

Legal Reference:
TCA 37-1-403(a) TCA 37-1-611(b)
TRR/MS 0520-1-3-.08(2)(e) TCA 39-15-401
TCA 37-1-412 TCA 37-1-408
TCA 37-1-403(h)
TCA 37-1-409
Tenn. Op. Atty. Gen. No. 87-101 (June 9, 1987)

Cross Reference:
Code of Conduct 6.300
Student Health Services 6.401
Student Psychological Services 6.406
Student Social Services 6.407
Student Records 6.600