

Abuse, Neglect and Mandated Reporting

Protection of Minors on Campus



Disclaimers

This training contains general information and guidelines. It does not address all possible training needs related to reporting. It is intended to be educational while aiding program staff in identifying the signs of child maltreatment. This presentation is also meant to highlight staff's duty to report different forms of abuse.

This training module should not be used as a substitute for additional training provided by individual Covered Programs or in place of guidance by administrators of Covered Programs on specific situations.



Mandated Reporting

In accordance with North Carolina State Law (G.S. 7B-301), any person or institution who reasonably suspects that a minor has been abused or neglected by a parent, guardian, custodian, or caretaker, has an absolute obligation to report that suspicion to the appropriate County Department of Social Services (County DSS), regardless of where the offense occurred.

Covered Programs are responsible for reporting all forms of child maltreatment, including peer-related abuse or inappropriate conduct involving a minor.

Protection for Reporters

In accordance with state law, if you make a report about suspected child maltreatment in good faith, you will receive immunity from possible civil or criminal liability that may result from your report.

No member of the University Community, including Covered Individuals, making a good faith report of suspected abuse or neglect will be retaliated against in the terms and conditions of employment, or within participation of educational programs or activities, as applicable, for adhering to the Protection of Minors on Campus Policy and North Carolina law.

If you suspect Child Abuse or Neglect

1

Contact campus police at 1911, (910) 672-1911, or use the LiveSafe App

2

Call Child Protective Services for Cumberland County at (910) 677-2450 or (910) 489-4583 (after hours)

3

Be prepared to provide information and specifics about the possible abuse or neglect of the child

4

If the child is participating in a program on campus, call the Compliance Officer at 910-672-1043.



Recognizing Signs of Abuse & Neglect

- The first step in helping abused or neglected children is to recognize the signs of child abuse and neglect.
- We will review general signs that may signal the presence of child abuse, including signs associated with specific types of maltreatment such as physical abuse, neglect, sexual abuse, and emotional maltreatment.



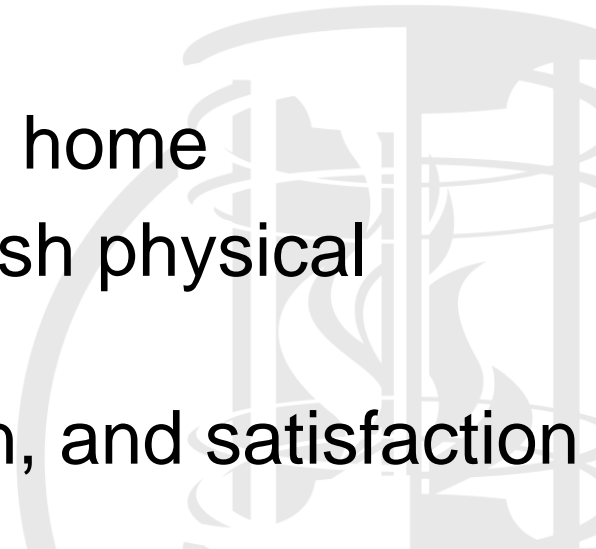
Recognizing Child Abuse

Signs and Behaviors Displayed by The Child

- Sudden changes in behavior or school performance
- Lack of medical care for physical or medical problems that are known to the parents
- Learning problems that cannot be attributed to specific physical or psychological causes
- Always watchful, as if expecting something bad to happen
- Lacks adult supervision
- Overly compliant, passive, or withdrawn
- Comes to school or other activities early or stays late, and does not want to go home

Recognizing Child Abuse

Signs and Behaviors Displayed by The Parent

- Shows little concern for the child or views the child as bad, worthless, or burdensome
 - Blames the child for problems in school or at home
 - Asks teachers or other caregivers to use harsh physical discipline if the child misbehaves
 - Looks primarily to the child for care, attention, and satisfaction of emotional needs
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Types of Abuse

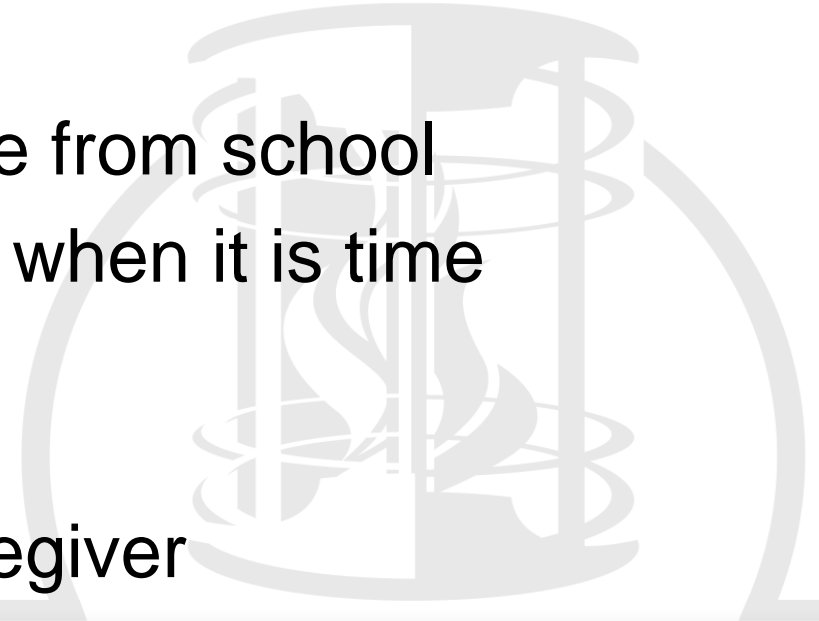
- We will review signs often associated with types of child abuse and neglect: *physical abuse, neglect, sexual abuse, and emotional abuse*.
- It is important to note that these types of abuse are more typically found in *combination* than alone.
- A physically abused child, for example, is often emotionally abused as well, and a sexually abused child also may be neglected.



Signs of Physical Abuse

Consider the possibility of physical abuse when the following signs are displayed by the child.

- Unexplained injuries
- Fading bruises or other marks after an absence from school
- Frightened of the parents and protests or cries when it is time to go home
- Shrinks at the approach of adults
- Reports injury by a parent or another adult caregiver



Signs of Physical Abuse

Consider the possibility of physical abuse when the following signs are displayed by the parent.

- Offers conflicting, unconvincing, or no explanation for the child's injury
- Describes the child as "evil," or in some other very negative way
- Uses harsh physical discipline with the child
- Has a history of abuse as a child



Signs of Neglect

Consider the possibility of neglect when the following signs are displayed by the child.

- Frequently absent from school
- Beggars or steals food or money
- Lacks needed medical or dental care
- Consistently dirty and has severe body odor
- Lacks sufficient clothing for the weather
- Abuses alcohol and/or other drugs
- States that there is no one at home to provide care



Signs of Neglect

Consider the possibility of neglect when the following signs are displayed by the parent.

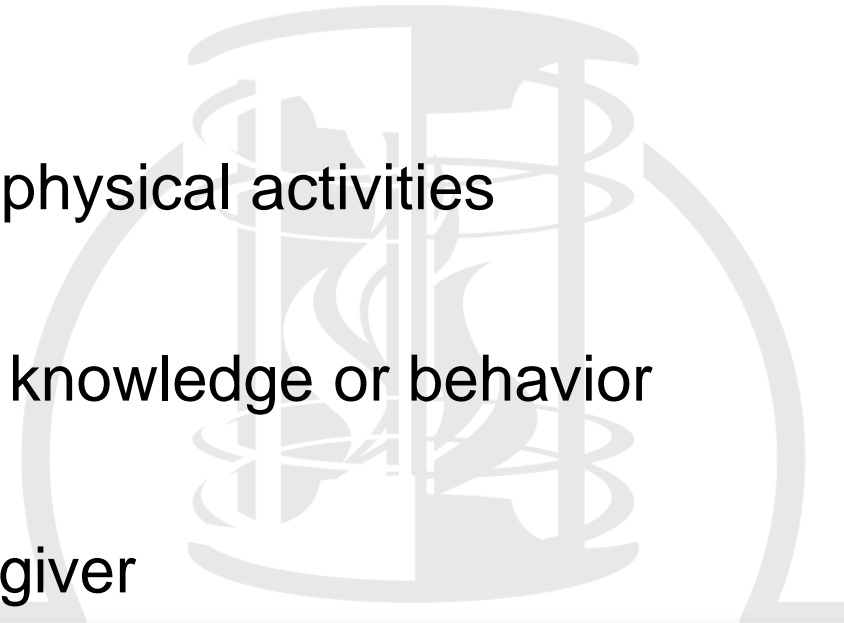
- Appears to be indifferent to the child
- Seems apathetic or depressed
- Behaves irrationally or in a bizarre manner
- Is abusing alcohol or other drugs



Signs of Sexual Abuse

Consider the possibility of sexual abuse when the following signs are displayed by the child.

- Difficulty walking or sitting
- Experiences a sudden change in appetite
- Suddenly refuses to change for gym or to participate in physical activities
- Reports nightmares or bedwetting
- Demonstrates bizarre, sophisticated, or unusual sexual knowledge or behavior
- Runs away
- Reports sexual abuse by a parent or another adult caregiver



Signs of Sexual Abuse

Consider the possibility of sexual abuse when the following signs are displayed by The Parent

- Unduly protective of the child or severely limits the child's contact with other children, especially of the opposite sex
- Secretive and isolated with or about the child
- Jealous or controlling with family members

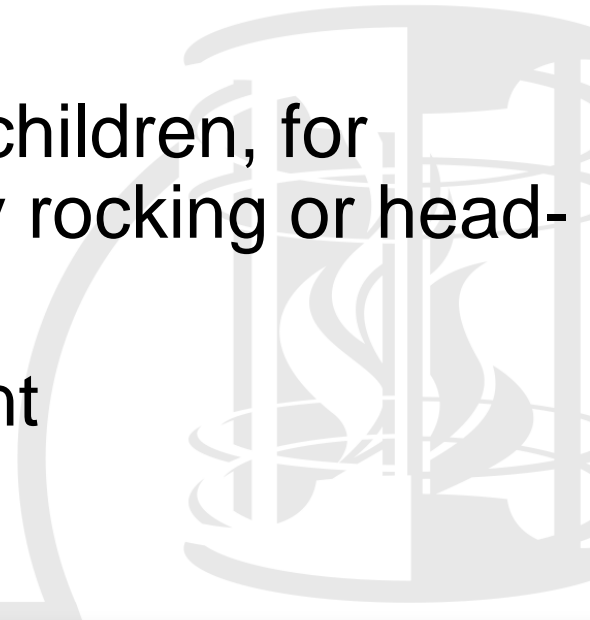
Child Welfare Information Gateway.

Available online at www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/signs.cfm



Signs of Emotional Maltreatment

Consider the possibility of emotional maltreatment when the child:

- Shows extremes in behavior, such as overly compliant or demanding, extreme passivity, or aggression
 - Is either inappropriately adult (parenting other children, for example) or inappropriately infantile (frequently rocking or head-banging, for example)
 - Is delayed in physical or emotional development
 - Has attempted suicide
 - Reports a lack of attachment to the parent
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Signs of Emotional Maltreatment

Consider the possibility of emotional maltreatment when the parent:

- Constantly blames, belittles, or berates the child
- Is unconcerned about the child and refuses to consider offers of help for the child's problems
- Overtly rejects the child

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Grooming and Red Flag Behaviors

Child grooming is a deliberate process by which offenders gradually initiate and maintain sexual relationships with victims in secrecy.

Grooming can look like a close relationship between the offending adult, the targeted child and (potentially) the child's caregivers.

The grooming process is often misleading because the offender may be well-known.



Recognizing Red Flag Behavior

- **Special attention/preference to a child**
- **Gift giving**
- **Touching or hugging the child**
- **Sympathetic listener**
- **Offers to help the family**
- **Gaining access via the internet**

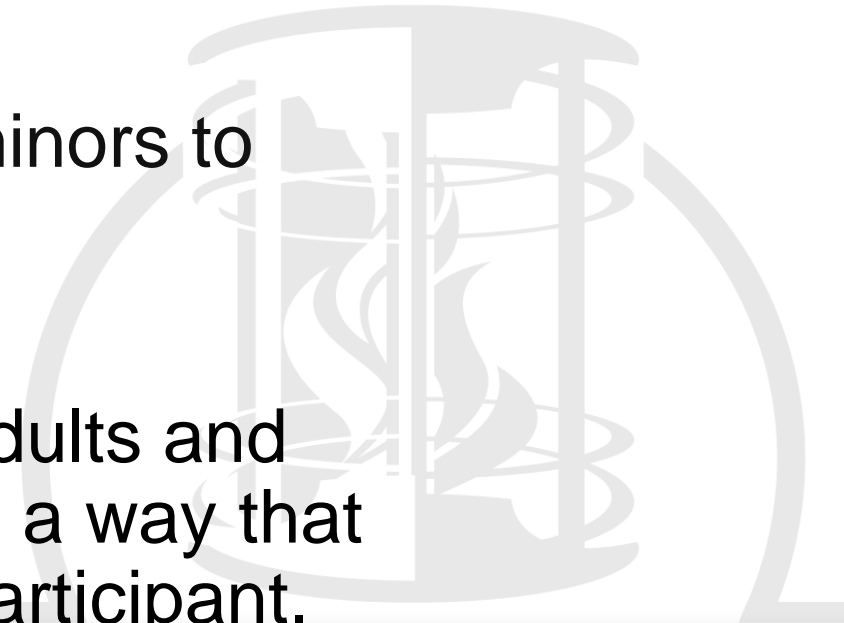


Authorized Adult Personal Boundaries

Boundaries can be physical, behavioral, emotional, locational or situational.

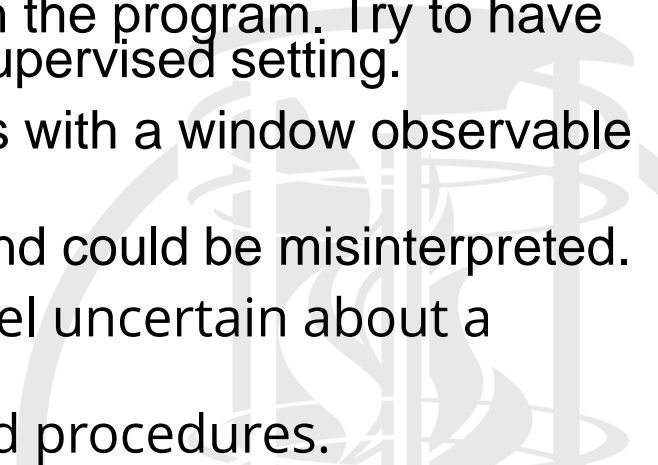
A healthy sense of boundaries is what allows minors to trust others and remain safe.

Boundaries that govern interactions between adults and children must be established and maintained in a way that ensures the safety and welfare of every child participant.



Personal Boundaries

DO

1. Always maintain the highest standard of personal behavior when interacting with minors.
 2. Refrain from being alone with a child at any time in connection with the program. Try to have another adult present when you are working with minors in an unsupervised setting.
 3. Whenever possible meet in open, well illuminated spaces or rooms with a window observable by other adults.
 4. Be aware of how your actions and intentions might be perceived and could be misinterpreted.
 5. Consult with other adult supervisors or colleagues when you feel uncertain about a situation.
 6. Abide by all guidelines stated within the University's policies and procedures.
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Personal Boundaries

DO NOT

1. Relate to minors as if they are peers, conduct private correspondence or take on the role of a “confidant”. Do not ask a minor to keep a secret.
2. Engage in abusive conduct of any kind toward, or in presence of any child.
3. Administer force upon a child with or without an implement or tool for the purpose of discipline (i.e., corporal punishment).
4. Touch a child or have physical contact in an inappropriate or illegal manner.
5. Engage in the use or possession of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs in the presence or vicinity of children.
6. Possess, produce, access or make available to children, any sexually explicit images, material, or media.
7. Use inappropriate language, tell risqué jokes, or make sexually suggestive comments around children, even if the children themselves do so.
8. Engage in or communicate with Minors through, text messages, social networking websites, internet chat rooms, or other forms of social media unless such communication is for the business purpose of University (i.e. Admissions, scheduling, recruitment).
9. Take or utilize photographs of any child without the written express consent of the child’s parent/guardian. A waiver of this guideline can be obtained by contacting the Youth Program Coordinator.
10. Date or become romantically or sexually involved with a child. Do not show pornography to a child or involve children in pornographic activities.

Contact for More Information

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