

Child Neglect, Abuse, and Reporting Policy

Child abuse is broadly defined as "physical and/or emotional welfare harm or threatened harm, caused by other than accidental acts or failures to act, by his or her parent or other person responsible for the child's welfare." School employees are required to report instances of child abuse when the employee has a "reasonable suspicion" that child abuse or neglect has occurred. Reasonable suspicion arises when the facts surrounding the incident or suspicion could cause a reasonable person in a like position to suspect child abuse or neglect.

Procedures

Any employee who knows or reasonably suspects a child has been the victim of child abuse shall report the instance to one of the three agencies by phone immediately:

Child Protective Services (Welfare Department)

Sheriff's Office

Red Bluff or Corning Police Department

The phone call is to be followed by a written report prepared by the employee within thirty-six (36) hours, which may be sent by fax or electronically. There is no duty for the reporter to contact the child's parents.

Reporting the information regarding a case of possible child abuse or neglect to your supervisor, the School principal, a School counselor, coworker or other person shall not be a substitute for making a mandated report to Child Protective Services, Sheriff's Office, or Red Bluff/Coming Police Department.

Adopted: 12/14/2017

Amended: