



TIPS FOR EDUCATORS

CHILD ABUSE

Child abuse is any act or failure to act on the part a parent or caretaker which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation, OR an act or failure to act which presents an imminent risk of serious harm.

- **Neglect:** Caregiver has resources but refuses to provide resources
- **Sex Trafficking:** a form of child sexual abuse, which falls under the umbrella of child abuse

DID YOU KNOW?

- There are **182 children victims** confirmed statewide daily (dfps.state.tx.us).
- In all confirmed cases of abuse and neglect, **parents and caregivers** were the most common perpetrators (dfps.state.tx.us).
- In 2019 there were **235 confirmed child abuse and neglect-related fatalities** in Texas. (dfps.state.tx.us).

WHERE TO REPORT:

You must report suspected child abuse to the appropriate agency within **48 hours of disclose/suspected abuse**. Appropriate agencies:

- CPS 713-394-4000
- DFPS 1-800-858-5400
- txabusehotline.org

BEST PRACTICES:

Recognizing signs of child abuse:

- **Physical** – frequent injuries, disruptive behavior, and fear of adults.
- **Emotional** – low self-esteem, delayed development, overly adult for age, suicide attempts or ideation
- **Sexual** – complains of pain at or near private parts, child or teen pregnancy, overly sexualized behavior, and sexual victimization of other minors.

Encourage students to use their voice if anyone or anything makes them feel uncomfortable.

- Students see and hear things before adults do.
- Remind students of your open-door policy.

When handling disclosures:

- Never place blame and assure them it is not their fault.
- Praise them for telling, then tell them what is next – do not make promises.

Use helpful statements:

- “I believe you”; “I will help you”; “I want you to be safe”
- “I cannot keep this secret but I will not tell anyone except those who must know to help”



CRIME STOPPERS OF HOUSTON SAFE SCHOOL INSTITUTE

3001 Main St. Houston, TX 77002

(713) 521-4600 (office)

(713) 222-TIPS (to report)

www.crime-stoppers.org/safe-school-institute

ssi@crime-stoppers.org



HOW TO REPORT A TIP



Call 713.222.TIPS (8477)



Use our Mobile App

Application name: Crime Stoppers Houston



Go to crime-stoppers.org

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS



STEP 1

Submit an anonymous tip



STEP 2

Your tip leads to an arrest or disciplinary action



STEP 3

Receive a cash reward
(up to \$5,000)