More information and help

- School principal

- Department of Education
  Child Protection Coordination Team
  T: 9402 6124
  E: Child.Protection@education.wa.edu.au
  W: det.wa.edu.au/childprotection

- Department for Child Protection
  T: 9222 2555 or
    1800 622 258 (country freecall)
  W: childprotection.wa.gov.au
The Department of Education is committed to the care, safety and protection of all public school students in Western Australia.

Many people in our communities have contact with school students and are NOT employed by the Department including:

- bus drivers
- canteen workers
- cleaners
- employers
- gardeners
- parent helpers
- private registered training providers
- providers of community based course
- volunteers
- work experience providers
- youth workers.

If you are one of these people and you see something or a school student tells you they have been abused, this brochure explains what to do if you are worried about the student’s safety.

**Definition of a child**
A child is any person under the age of 18 years.

**Types of child abuse**

- **Sexual abuse** happens when a child is touched in a sexual way or used in a sexual way by someone older.

- **Emotional/psychological abuse** is when a child is made to feel bad through continual threatening, belittling, teasing and/or bullying.

- **Neglect** is when a child is not looked after and kept healthy.

- **Physical abuse** is when a child is seriously and deliberately hurt or injured by an adult.

**What to do**
If you believe a school student has been abused, you should talk with the school principal as soon as possible.

**Students on work experience or doing training**
Private registered training organisations, employers, providers of community based courses and providers of work experience should report any concerns of child abuse to the principal of the school in which the student is enrolled.

**Students on Notices of Arrangements**
If the student is on a Notice of Arrangements, concerns should be reported to the manager participation at the local district education office of the Department. Telephone 1800 245 485 and you will be provided with the name and number of the manager in your area.

**What will happen**
The school principal will make a report to the Department for Child Protection whose staff will contact the school and parents/carers.