



**Looking Out for Georgia's Youth:
EDUCATION CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

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Overview

- Mandated Reporters
- Categories of Abuse
- Indicators of Abuse
- Disclosures
- Reporting
- Prevention



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'Child service organization personnel' means persons employed by or volunteering at a business or an organization, whether public, private, for profit, not for profit, or voluntary, that provides care, treatment, education, training, supervision, coaching, counseling, recreational programs, or shelter to children.

'School' means any public or private pre-kindergarten, elementary school, secondary school, technical school, vocational school, college, university, or institution of postsecondary education.

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Categories of Abuse

- Physical Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Neglect



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Neglect

The failure of a parent, guardian, or other caregiver to provide for a child's basic needs. This can also include failure to protect them from a known risk of harm or danger.

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Neglect

- Is frequently absent from school
- Begs or steals food or money
- Lacks needed medical or dental care, immunizations, glasses, etc.
- Is consistently dirty and has severe body odor
- Lacks sufficient clothing for the weather
- Abuses alcohol or drugs
- States that there is no one at home to provide care

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Physical Abuse

The non-accidental physical injury of a child

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Physical Abuse

- Has unexplained burns, bites, bruises, broken bones, or black eyes
- Has fading bruises or other marks noticeable after an absence from school
- Seems 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

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Sexual Abuse

Anything done with a child for the sexual gratification of an adult or older child

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Sexual Abuse

- Has difficulty walking or sitting
- Suddenly refuses to change for gym or to participate in physical activities
- Reports nightmares or bedwetting
- Experiences a sudden change in appetite
- Demonstrates bizarre, sophisticated, or unusual sexual knowledge or behavior
- Becomes pregnant or contracts a sexually transmitted disease
- Runs away

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Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

When individuals buy, trade, or sell sexual acts with a child

- Branding or tattooing
- Older boyfriend or male friend
- Withdrawn and uncommunicative
- Large amounts of money
- Inappropriate dress or poor hygiene
- Runaway or lack of adult supervision/support

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Emotional Abuse

A pattern of behavior that impairs a child's emotional development or sense of self-worth

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Emotional Abuse

- Shows extremes in behavior
- Inappropriately adult or infantile
- Is delayed in physical or emotional development
- Has attempted suicide
- Reports a lack of attachment to the parent

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Mandated Reporting

- Disclosure
- Reporting
- Rights as a Mandated Reporter



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Protective Factors

- Parental Resilience
- Social Connections
- Knowledge of Child Development
- Concrete Support In Times of Need
- Social and Emotional Competence of the Child



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Prevention Strategies

- Value and Support Parents
- Strengthen Parenting
- Facilitate Friendships and Mutual Support
- Respond to Family Crises
- Link Families to Services and Opportunities
- Further Children's Social and Emotional Development
- Observe and Respond to Early Warning Signs of Abuse or Neglect



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Questions & Handouts

