

ORANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Costa Mesa, California

SUPERINTENDENT'S POLICY

100-28

**Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting**

The Orange County Department of Education is committed to supporting the safety and well-being of Orange County Department of Education students and desires to facilitate the prevention of and response to child abuse and neglect. The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement strategies for preventing, recognizing, and promptly reporting known or suspected child abuse and neglect.

The Superintendent or designee may provide a student who is a victim of abuse with school-based mental health services or other support services and/or may refer the student to resources available within the community as needed.

*Child Abuse Prevention*

The Orange County Department of Education's instructional program shall include age-appropriate and culturally sensitive child abuse prevention curriculum. This curriculum shall explain students' right to live free of abuse, include instruction in the skills and techniques needed to identify unsafe situations and react appropriately and promptly, inform students of available support resources, and teach students how to obtain help and disclose incidents of abuse.

The Orange County Department of Education's program also may include age-appropriate curriculum in sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention. Upon written request of a student's parent/guardian, the student shall be excused from taking such instruction.

The Superintendent or designee shall, to the extent feasible, seek to incorporate community resources into the Orange County Department of Education's child abuse prevention programs and may use these resources to provide parents/guardians with instruction in parenting skills and child abuse prevention.

*Child Abuse Reporting*

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures for the identification and reporting of known and suspected child abuse and neglect in accordance with law.

Procedures for reporting child abuse shall be included in the Orange County Department of Education and/or school comprehensive safety plan.

Orange County Department of Education employees who are mandated reporters, as defined by law, are obligated to report all known or suspected incidents of child abuse and neglect.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training regarding the duties of mandated reporters.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 32280-32288 Comprehensive school safety plans
- 33195 Heritage schools, mandated reporters
- 33308.1 Guidelines on procedure for filing child abuse complaints
- 44252 Teacher credentialing
- 44691 Staff development in the detection of child abuse and neglect
- 44807 Duty concerning conduct of students
- 48906 Notification when student released to peace officer
- 48987 Dissemination of reporting guidelines to parents
- 49001 Prohibition of corporal punishment
- 51220.5 Parenting skills education
- 51900.6 Sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention

PENAL CODE

- 152.3 Duty to report murder, rape, or lewd or lascivious act
- 273a Willful cruelty or unjustifiable punishment of child; endangering life or health
- 288 Definition of lewd or lascivious act requiring reporting
- 11164-11174.3 Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act

WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE

- 15630-15637 Dependent adult abuse reporting

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

- 4650 Filing complaints with CDE, special education students

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

- 11434a McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act; definitions