

CHILD ABUSE

The Newtown school system acknowledges that child abuse is a major problem affecting students and their families. It is the school system's responsibility to foster positive youth development. Therefore, it is in the best interest of the students for the Newtown school system to take a pro-active stand in the prevention and identification of child abuse.

The Newtown school system recognizes its moral and ethical responsibility to provide programs conducive to the positive development of youth and to provide appropriate intervention for students and their families. At the same time, the Newtown school recognizes that child abuse is a complex issue. While school personnel may suspect child abuse, they cannot make clinical assessment of risk and provide in-depth counseling but must refer the student to the Department of Children and Youth Services.

Therefore, any school employee who may suspect child abuse must take the proper steps as specified in administrative procedures to report this information.

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