

## Students

### Reporting of Child Abuse

The Board of Trustees (Board) recognizes its legal and ethical obligations in the reporting of suspected child abuse and neglect. Any person applying for employment at The Academy shall submit to a record check of the Department of Children and Families Child Abuse and Neglect Registry before the person may be hired. Mandated reporters include all school employees, specifically Head of School, administrators, teachers, substitute teachers, school counselors, school paraprofessionals, coaches of intramural and interscholastic athletics, as well as licensed nurses, physicians, psychologists, licensed behavior analysts and social workers either employed by The Woodstock Academy, or any other person who, in the performance of his or her duties, has regular contact with students and who provides services to or on behalf of students enrolled at The Academy. Such individual(s) who have reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child has been abused, neglected, or placed in imminent risk of serious harm, is required to report such abuse and/or neglect or risk.

Through the various handbooks, The Board shall annually make available the mandated policy and process. This should include guidelines on reporting child sexual abuse and information on DCF's sexual abuse and assault awareness program.

A mandated reporter's suspicions may be based on factors including, but not limited to, observations, allegations, facts by a child, victim or third party.

A mandated reporter shall make an oral report, by telephone or in person, to the Department Children and Families (DCF) as soon as possible, but no later than twelve (12) hours after the reporter has reasonable cause to suspect the child has been abused or neglected. In addition, the mandated reporter shall inform the Associate Head of School or his/her designee that he/she will be making a report. Not later than forty-eight (48) hours of making the oral report, the mandated reporter shall file a written report with DCF.

Failure to report suspecting abuse and/or neglect of children will result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes  
 10-220a In-service training. Professional development committees. Institutes for educators.  
 Cooperating teacher program, regulations  
 10-221d Criminal history records check. Fingerprinting. Termination or dismissal  
 17a-28 Definitions. Conf. of and access to records; exceptions. Procedure for aggrieved persons.  
 17a-101 Protection of children from abuse. Reports required of certain professional persons. When child may be removed from surroundings without court order.  
 17a-101a Report of abuse or neglect by mandated reports.  
 17a-102 Report of danger of abuse.  
 17a-106 Cooperation in relation to prevention, identification and treatment of child abuse/neglect.  
 10-151 Teacher Tenure Act  
 P.A. 11-93 An Act Concerning the Response of School Districts and the Departments of Education and Children and Families to Reports of Child Abuse and Neglect and the Identification of Foster Children in a School District  
 P.A. 14-186 An Act Concerning the Department of Children and Families and the Protection of Children  
 PA 22-87 An Act Concerning the Identification and Prevention of and Response to Adult Sexual Misconduct Against Children

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The Woodstock Academy  
 Woodstock, Connecticut