

What are my obligations to report child abuse/neglect?

State law (N.J.S.A.9:6-8.10), requires “Any person having reasonable cause to believe that a child has been subjected to child abuse or acts of child abuse shall report the same **immediately** to the Division of Youth and Family Services by telephone or otherwise...”L. 1971, c.437, s.3; amended by L. 1987,c.341,s.4.

New Jersey Department of Education administrative code N.J.A.C. 6A:16-11(a) 2 requires, that district policies include “Provisions requiring school district employees, volunteers or interns, to **immediately** notify designated child welfare authorities of incidents of alleged missing, abused and neglected children.”

Also, the “confirmation” of another person is not required: “Under no condition shall the school district’s policy require confirmation by another person to report the suspected missing, abused or neglected child situation.”pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-11 (a) 4.

School includes: on school grounds, on school buses, in the school or at school-sponsored functions pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-1.3.