Students AR 5141.4 (a)

### CHILD ABUSE REPORTING PROCEDURES

Child abuse or neglect includes the following: (Penal Code 11165.5, 11165.6)

- 1. A physical injury inflicted by other than accidental means on a child by another person
- 2. Sexual abuse of a child as defined in Penal Code 11165.1
- 3. Neglect as defined in Penal Code 11165.2
- 4. Willful cruelty or unjustifiable punishment of a child as defined in Penal Code 11165.3
- 5. Unlawful corporal punishment or injury resulting in a traumatic condition as defined in Penal Code 11165 4

Child abuse or neglect does not include:

- 1. A mutual affray between minors (Penal Code 11165.6)
- 2. An injury caused by reasonable and necessary force used by a peace officer acting within the course and scope of his/her employment (Penal Code 11165.6)

(cf. 3515.3 - District Police/Security Department)

- 3. The exercise by a teacher, vice principal, principal or other certificated employee of the same degree of physical control over a student that a parent/guardian would be privileged to exercise, not exceeding the amount of physical control reasonably necessary to maintain order, protect property, protect the health and safety of students, or maintain proper and appropriate conditions conducive to learning (Education Code 44807)
- 4. An amount of force that is reasonable and necessary for a school employee to quell a disturbance threatening physical injury to persons or damage to property, to protect himself/herself, or to obtain weapons or other dangerous objects within the control of the student (Education Code 49001)
- 5. Physical pain or discomfort caused by athletic competition or other such recreational activity voluntarily engaged in by the student (Education Code 49001)

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**Students AR 5141.4 (b)** 

#### CHILD ABUSE REPORTING PROCEDURES

Mandated reporters include but are not limited to administrators; teachers; instructional aides; teacher's aides or assistants; classified employees; certificated pupil personnel employees; administrative officers or supervisors of child attendance; administrators and employees of a licensed day care facility; Head Start teachers; district police or security officers; and administrators, presenters or counselors of a child abuse prevention program. (Penal Code 11165.7)

(cf. 5141.41 - Child Abuse Prevention)

Reasonable suspicion means that it is objectively reasonable for a person to entertain a suspicion, based upon facts that could cause a reasonable person in a like position, drawing when appropriate on his/her training and experience, to suspect child abuse or neglect. (Penal Code 11166)

## **Reportable Offenses**

A mandated reporter shall make a report using the procedures provided below whenever, in his/her professional capacity or within the scope of his/her employment, he/she has knowledge of or observes a child whom the mandated reporter knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse or neglect. (Penal Code 11166)

Any mandated reporter who has knowledge of or who reasonably suspects that mental suffering has been inflicted upon a child, or that the child's emotional well-being is endangered in any other way, may report the known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect to the appropriate agency designated below. (Penal Code 11166.05)

Instances that indicate that the emotional well-being of a child might be endangered include, but are not limited to, evidence that the child is suffering from emotional damage, such as severe anxiety, depression, withdrawal, or untoward aggressive behavior towards self or others.

Any person shall notify a peace officer if he/she reasonably believes that he/she has observed the commission of a murder, rape, or lewd or lascivious act by use of force, violence, duress, menace, or fear of immediate and unlawful bodily injury, where the victim is a child under age 14. (Penal Code 152.3, 288)

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Students AR 5141.4 (c)

## CHILD ABUSE REPORTING PROCEDURES

# **Responsibility for Reporting**

The reporting duties are individual and cannot be delegated to another person. (Penal Code 11166)

When two or more mandated reporters jointly have knowledge of a known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect, and when there is agreement among them, the report may be made by a member of the team selected by mutual agreement and a single report may be made and signed by the selected member of the reporting team. Any member who has knowledge that the member designated to report has failed to do so shall thereafter make the report. (Penal Code 11166)

No supervisor or administrator shall impede or inhibit a mandated reporter from making a report. (Penal Code 11166)

Any person not identified as a mandated reporter who has knowledge of or observes a child whom he/she knows or reasonably suspects has been a victim of child abuse or neglect may report the known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect to the appropriate agency. (Penal Code 11166)

Regulation

**CULVER CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT** 

reviewed: July 20, 2004

Culver City, California

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