**Reporting Suspected Child Abuse and/or Neglect Policy**

**Oklahoma law requires teachers, nurses, and all other school personnel to report any suspected case of physical abuse, neglect of a child, child exploitation, or suspected child trafficking. Failure to report such information immediately is a misdemeanor. The law also grants immunity from any civil or criminal liability to any person who, in good faith, makes such a report.**

**Child Abuse and Neglect shall include, but is not limited to:**

1. **Child abuse as defined in Section 843.5 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes:**
2. **Sexual abuse or sexual exploitation as defined in Section 1-1-105 of Title 10A of the Oklahoma Statutes:**
3. **Contributing to the delinquency of a minor as defined in Section 856 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes:**
4. **Trafficking in children, as defined in Section 866 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes:**
5. **Incest as described in Section 885 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes:**
6. **Forcible sodomy, as described in Section 888 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes:**
7. **Maliciously, forcibly or fraudulently taking or enticing a child away, as described in Section 891 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes:**
8. **Soliciting or aiding a minor child to perform or showing, exhibiting, loaning or distributing obscene material or child pornography, as described in Section 1021 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes:**
9. **Procuring or causing the participation of any minor child in any child pornography or knowingly possessing, procuring or manufacturing child pornography, as described in Section 1021.2 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes:**
10. **Permitting or consenting the participation of a minor child in any child pornography, as described in Section 1021.3 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes:**
11. **Facilitating, encouraging, offering or soliciting sexual conduct with a minor, as described in Section 1040.13a of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes:**
12. **Offering or offering to secure a minor child for the purpose of prostitution or any other lewd or indecent act as described in Section 1087 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes:**
13. **Causing, inducing, persuading or encouraging a minor child to engage or continue to engage in prostitution as described in Section 1088 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statues:**
14. **Rape or rape by instrumentation, as described in Sections 1111.1 and 1114 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes: and**
15. **Making any oral, written or electronically or computer-generated lewd or indecent proposals to a minor child under the age of sixteen (16) as described in Section 1123 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes.**

**Any Oklahoma Union District employee having reasonable cause to believe that a student is the victim of abuse or neglect shall report the matter immediately.**

**How to Report:  *Child Abuse Hotline and Oklahoma Union SRO if student is under 18***

 ***Oklahoma Union SRO if student is over the age of 18.***

**If Oklahoma Union SRO is not available, then employees must report to local law enforcement. The DHS statewide hotline number is 1-800-522-3511. The report will give all the pertinent details regarding the case and be filed electronically or by phone. The employee may notify the building principal, counselor, and/ or school health clerk that a report has been made. In the case of suspected trafficking, the employee will report the concern to the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control (OBNDDC), giving all pertinent details regarding the case.**

**Neither the board of education nor any Oklahoma Union District employee will discharge or in any manner discriminate or retaliate against the person who in good faith provided such reports or information , testifies, or is about to testify in any proceeding involving child abuse, neglect, exploitation, or trafficking; provided, that the person did not perpetrate or inflict the abuse, neglect, exploitation or trafficking.**

**After and/or during the time a report is made to DHS or OBNDDC and local law enforcement, the person making the report will complete the “Child Abuse Reporting Form.” This report shall be kept in a confidential file by the employee for a minimum of 5 years. The report may also be turned in to the building principal, counselor, and/or school health clerk.**

**At the request of the appropriately identified investigators of DHS, OBNDDC of the District Attorney’s office, the superintendent, principal or other school official shall permit the investigators access to a student about whom the agency received a report. The interview will be arranged in a manner that minimizes embarrassment to the child. The superintendent, principal, or other school official will NOT contact the parent, guardian or other person responsible for the child’s health or welfare prior to or following the interview, unless permission for parent contact is provided by law enforcement authorities. No district employee will be present during the interview. However, an Oklahoma Union employee may be present prior to the interview if the employee believes that his or her temporary presence will make the child more comfortable or if the representatives request the presence of a district employee during the interview.**

**REFERENCE: 10A O.S. SS 1-2-101**

 **10A O.S. SS 1-2-104**

 **63 O.S. SS 1-120 (G)**

 **70 O.S. SS 1210.162**

 **ATTY.GEN.OP. NO. 78-202 (dEC. 28, 1978)**

**Child Abuse/Neglect Reporting Procedures:**

1. **If student is under the age of 18, immediately report to DHS Hotline (1-800-522-3511) and local law enforcement agency. Oklahoma Union SRO may be informed in lieu of local law enforcement agency if one is employed at the time of report.**

**If student is over the age of 18, immediately report to local law enforcement agency. Oklahoma Union SRO may be informed in lieu of local law enforcement agency if one is employed at the time of report.**

1. **The reporter shall give all pertinent details regarding the case.**
2. **The reporter may notify the building principal, superintendent, building counselor, and/or school health clerk that a report has been made.**
3. **In the case of suspected trafficking, the employee will report the concern to the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control (OBNDDC), giving all pertinent details regarding the case.**
4. **During or immediately after the report is made to DHS, local law enforcement, and/or OBNDDC the employee shall complete the “Child Abuse Report Form.” All employees shall use the same form provided by OKU School District. Forms are located in each office.**
5. **Employees may turn in a copy of the report to the site principal and/or site counselor. Employees shall keep a copy in a confidential file for 5 years.**