

**Policy JGCA: Child Abuse and/or Neglect Reporting Procedures**

**Status:** ADOPTED

**Original Adopted Date:** 01/05/2001 | **Last Revised Date:** 06/11/2018 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 06/11/2018

**Child Abuse Reporting Policy**

All school personnel are mandatory reporters of child abuse and/or neglect. As provided in MS Codes Sections 43-21-353 and 43-21-355; it is the responsibility of school personnel to, immediately, report suspected cases of child abuse. The child abuse law grants immunity to all school personnel when acting in good faith, reports cases of child abuse. This law also states that school personnel can be prosecuted if child abuse is suspected and not reported.

The Jackson County School District utilizes the following procedure in reporting child abuse cases to the Superintendent and/or Youth Court.

1. Mandatory Reporters (all school personnel) shall immediately inform and report any suspected child abuse to the Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services by phone, online, or in person.
  2. All school personnel must also immediately inform suspected cases of child abuse to the district superintendent.
  3. The principals must allow authorized personnel from the Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services to have an in-school conference with a child who has reportedly been abused.
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