

## ***SISD Sexual Abuse Policy***

SISD is committed to providing all students of our district with a safe learning environment. Each district is required to have a sexual abuse procedure in place in order to assist staff members in reporting sexual abuse. Sexual abuse in the Texas Family Code is defined as any sexual conduct harmful to a child's mental, emotional, or physical welfare as well as a failure to make a reasonable effort to prevent sexual conduct with a child. If you suspect a student is being subjected to sexual abuse, follow the procedures below:

As soon as you become aware of a possible sexual abuse toward a student you will need to contact CPS and report the incident. If you need assistance with this process you may contact your campus counselor/nurse. The district recommends when reporting sexual abuse you call the CPS hotline and not do an online report.

During this reporting procedure the campus principal should be made aware of the situation in order to assist in the process as necessary.

In abuse cases we are required to make a report within 48 hours. In the case of sexual abuse we are requesting this report be filed as soon as possible but not later than the required 48 hours. The district also recommends that you keep a record of important information concerning the incident such as times, dates, and the report identification information. If you have any questions about whether or not to report situations, please consult with your campus counselor/nurse or administration.

### ***Possible Indicators of Sexual Abuse***

- ❖ Difficulty in walking or sitting
- ❖ Pain or itching around genitals
- ❖ Stomach aches
- ❖ Bed-wetting
- ❖ Sleep problems
- ❖ Depression or withdrawn behavior
- ❖ Poor peer relationships
- ❖ Sudden onset of behavior problems
- ❖ Unusual knowledge of or interest in sex

### **Parents:**

**If you suspect your child or another child has been subject to sexual abuse, please contact CPS at 1-800-252-5400. The law requires that all suspected abuse be reported. Your name will remain anonymous. Please contact the schools administration also if you suspect any abuse going on.**