

All employees of the Okefenokee RESA, as well as persons who attend to a child pursuant to their duties as volunteers for the school system, who have reason or cause to believe that suspected child abuse has occurred shall notify the principal or the school system's designee, who shall report that abuse immediately, but in no case later than 24 hours from the time there is reasonable cause to believe that suspected child abuse has occurred in accordance with Georgia law and the protocol for handling child abuse cases for Waycross/Ware County, Georgia.

Under no circumstances shall the principal or designee to whom a report of child abuse has been made exercise any control, restraint, modification or make other change to the information provided by a mandated reporter, although the reporter may be consulted prior to the making of a report and may provide any additional, relevant and necessary information when making the report.

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

Note: The State of Georgia has moved the Georgia Code. This new environment no longer allows us to link directly to the Georgia Code. For example enter 20-02-0211 in the search window and the Georgia Code will appear.

State Reference	Description
O.C.G.A 15-11-0002	Definitions-juvenile code
O.C.G.A 15-11-0134	Required findings; justifying removal from the home
O.C.G.A 16-06-0005.1	Sexual assault by persons with supervisory or disciplinary authority
O.C.G.A 16-06-0009	Prostitution
O.C.G.A 19-07-0005	Reporting child abuse
O.C.G.A 19-15-0002	Child Abuse Protocol
O.C.G.A 20-02-1184	Mandatory reporting of students committing certain prohibited acts
O.C.G.A 49-05-0041	Persons and agencies permitted access to records
Rule 160-4-8-.04	Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting

Adopted: April 22, 2003

Last Revised: August 23, 2017