

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT REPORTING PROTOCOL**F10 - Elementary**

In accordance with 33 VSA Chapter 49, Section 4913: Any registered nurse, school teacher, school librarian, school principal, Building Administrator or school guidance counselor, who has Reasonable Cause* to believe that any child under the age of 18 has been abused or neglected shall report or cause a report to be made in accordance with the provisions of Section 4914 of this title within 24 hours. According to 33 VSA, any school employee who, in good faith, makes a report, shall be immune from any criminal or civil liability which might otherwise be incurred or imposed as a result of making a report. In some cases, reporters may be required to appear in court. Any designated employee who fails to report suspected abuse may be fined not more than \$500.

*Reasonable Cause, for the purposes of this policy, is defined as a specific occurrence, which in the context of the collective information of the individuals involved would lead a reasonable person to conclude that a child under the age of 18 has been abused or neglected.

Date Warned: 8/3/01

Date Adopted: 8/17/01

Legal Reference(s): 33 VSA, Chapter 49, § 4912, 4913, 4914, 4915, 4916, 4917, 4918, 4919