



# CHRYSALIS MONTESSORI SCHOOL

## CHILD PROTECTION

The Western Australian State Government is responsible for receiving reports of suspected child abuse and neglect from members of the public, practitioners and service providers. Reporting child abuse and neglect is a community-wide responsibility. Anyone who suspects, on reasonable grounds, that a child is at risk of being abused and/or neglected should report it to the reporting authority.

If a child has disclosed abuse or neglect to you, it is important to stay calm and listen to them with empathy and your full attention. Also reassure them that they have done the right thing disclosing the abuse or neglect and that you will help them to be safe by telling someone else who will be able to help.

## DEFINING CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Child abuse and neglect refer to any behaviour or treatment by parents, caregivers, other adults or older adolescents that results in the likelihood of and/or actual physical or emotional harm to a child or young person. Such behaviours may be intentional or unintentional and can include acts of omission (i.e. neglect) and commission (i.e. abuse) (CFCA, 2018). Child abuse and neglect can be face to face or online.

Child abuse and neglect is commonly divided into five subtypes:

- physical abuse
- emotional or psychological abuse
- neglect
- sexual abuse or exploitation
- exposure to family violence

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITIES

[Department of Communities](#)

The Department of Communities offers a range of services to support children and families in Western Australia. For further information about the process of reporting concerns about a child's welfare, refer to the department's [Child Protection](#) webpage. For information about mandatory reporting in Western Australia refer to the department's [mandatory reporting information](#) webpage.

### Emergency Contact Phone Numbers:

- For life-threatening concerns, call 000.
- If you are concerned about a child's wellbeing, contact the Central Intake Team 1800 273 889
- After hours Crisis Care 1800 199 008, text on 0477 131 114

