DETECTING CHILD ABUSE IN A REMOTE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

WHAT YOU MIGHT SEE

- › Hyper-vigilant of their surroundings
- › A child recoiling or bracing from a hand
- › Extreme changes in grooming
- › Rapid weight loss or a frail appearance
- › No smiling or vocalization
- › An adult hovering/intimidating
- › An adult engaging in harsh physical discipline
- › Attempts to hide bruising or injuries with clothing or dim lighting
- › After consistently video chatting during online instruction, the student switches to a head shot or emoji

WHAT YOU MIGHT HEAR

- › An explanation of bruises that are typical of abuse vs. bruises commonly seen from accidents
- › A parent or caregiver shouting insults or chaotic fighting and screaming in the background
- › A parent or caregiver using abusive language toward the child and/or other children in the home
- › Statements from students regarding being "scared" or "not wanting to be at home"

REPORTING SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Have the following information ready to share:
- › Demographic information of the victim(s)
- › Type of abuse or neglect suspected
- › Detect if the victim is in imminent danger
- › Location of the victim and caregivers
- › Determine if a protective caregiver is present
- › The alleged perpetrator has access to the victim
- › General functioning of victim and caregivers
- › Any safety threats for first responders

IF YOU SEE OR SUSPECT CHILD ABUSE YOU MUST REPORT IT.

WEST VIRGINIA CENTRALIZED INTAKE FOR ABUSE AND NEGLECT TOLL-FREE TELEPHONE HOTLINE TO REPORT SUSPECTED ABUSE OR NEGLECT: 800-352-6513

West Virginia DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Visit *wvde.us/reclaimwv* for help hotlines and more information related to trauma, substance misuse, and mental health.

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