

*On September 1, 2021, Senate Bill 693 was signed into Law, effective immediately.
This legislation aims to increase awareness of the signs of abuse in children and
requires public schools to provide students with information on abuse and neglect
with the goal of better supporting and protecting them.*

You deserve to be safe.

No one has the right to abuse you or someone you know.
Child abuse is when someone, whether through action or failing to act, causes injury, death, emotional harm, or risk of serious harm to a child.

There are different types of abuse.

- Physical abuse is when a parent or caregiver injures or hurts a child, and it was not an accident.
- Sexual abuse occurs when an adult uses a child for sexual purposes or involves a child in sexual acts. It also includes when a child who is older or more powerful uses another child for sexual acts. You should never be touched by an adult in areas normally covered by underwear except for the purposes of a medical exam by a medical professional.
- When a parent or caregiver causes harm to a child's mental or emotional wellbeing, it is considered emotional abuse. While a single incident may be abuse, most often emotional abuse happens often enough to cause emotional harm and fear over time.
- Child neglect is when a parent or caregiver does not provide the care, supervision, affection and support needed for a child's health, safety and well-being.

If you have experienced abuse or know someone who has, here is how you can help:

Report the incident to a trusted adult.

This can be a teacher, staff member, or administrator.

Report the incident using the SaySomething App.

Or download the app for your smartphone or iPad.

Call 1-844-5-SayNow.

Visit saysomething.net to report online.

This reporting system is anonymous.



If you see any of the these signs, have been abused, or know someone you think is being abused, please get help right away.

Physical Abuse

- hitting
- kicking
- choking
- shoving

Emotional Abuse

- ignoring
- mocking
- name-calling
- blaming

Sexual Abuse

- sexual acts between an adult and youth
- forced sexual acts by an older child
- adults touching a youth's body in areas normally covered by underwear

Child Neglect

Parent/Caregiver does not provide care such as:

- clothing, food, and drink
- a safe place to stay
- appropriate treatment for injuries and sickness
- access to school/education

Bullying

- repeated, targeted, aggressive behavior
- use of force, threats, or teasing to overpower
- being socially shut out of a group
- can hurt physically, emotionally, or both

Online Abuse

- uncomfortable or sexual conversations
- requests for sexual or revealing photos
- threatening messages
- cyberstalking

The identity of the person making the report, and all information obtained during the report, will be held in the strictest confidence possible to maintain everyone's safety.

In an emergency: **Call 911**

To report abuse: Buncombe Co. Dept. of Social Services- **828-250-5900**