



Families SA

There is no excuse for child abuse

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility.

Every family experiences difficulties from time to time. When they do they may need family and friends to help them through it. In difficult situations children are especially vulnerable and it is up to every one to protect and care for them..

If you know of a friend or family member who is having a rough time, see what you can do to support them, especially to ensure their children are OK until things are sorted out.

If you contact the Child Abuse Report Line your call will be kept confidential. There is also an interpreting service available.

When there are issues of serious abuse and neglect Families SA is the government agency that is required to step in, and you can report concerns to them.

If you suspect a child is being seriously harmed or neglected, call the Child abuse Report Line on 131 478.

A one step Child Abuse Report Line
For the cost of a local call, anyone in South Australia can report suspected child abuse or neglect to the Child Abuse Report Line.

The Child Abuse Report Line number is 13 14 78. It operates 24 hours a day, every day of the year.



All children need to feel safe
everyday

**Child Abuse
Report Line
13 14 78**

The Child Abuse Report Line is a
confidential state wide 24 hour service

A better way for Aboriginal children
Yaitya Tirramangkotti is specifically dedicated to providing advice and assistance in any cases involving Aboriginal children.

Staffed by Aboriginal people, Yaitya Tirramangkotti makes sure that everything is done to involve Aboriginal families and help them care for their children in ways that are culturally appropriate.



Tips for callers

To assist Families SA do their work it is handy to remember the following tips when calling –

- Do you know the child's name, age and address?
- Are you able to describe the injury/abuse/neglect either current or previous?
- Are you aware of the current situation and the whereabouts of the child, parent, caregiver and alleged maltreater?
- When did you become aware of the abuse?

However if you do not know all of the above information we still encourage you to notify the Child Abuse Report Line if you suspect abuse.

What happens when I call the Child Abuse Report Line?

Suspected cases of serious abuse or neglect are referred to the nearest Families SA District Centre. Social workers from the District Centre may visit the child and family to investigate the concerns.

If a child is in immediate danger an investigation will occur within 24 hours, and may also involve the assistance of police and hospitals.

When the risk to the child appears to be less serious, families will be invited to a meeting at the District Centre to discuss the concerns about the child's well being. They will also be offered assistance so they can provide better care for their children.

Why should I report child abuse?

Children are powerless to protect themselves and will only be protected from abuse and neglect if responsible adults take action on their behalf.

Child abuse can happen to any child in any family. It hurts and can have lasting, damaging effects. Some children even die because of child abuse.

Reporting child abuse is the first step in stopping the abuse and protecting children from further harm.

Sometimes children are being hurt because their:

- Families do not have adequate support
- Carers are experiencing a lot of stress such as unemployment, illness, isolation or loneliness
- Parent/s may not have experienced any models of non-abusive families
- Reporting suspected abuse also gives Families SA the chance to help families in situations where a child or children may be at risk.

Any questions?

Call the
Child Abuse Report Line

13 14 78