

# Utah Child Abuse Hotline

1-855-323-3237

Sources:

Division of Child & Family  
Services  
& Utah Chapter of The National  
Committee for Prevention of Child  
Abuse

Bear River Head Start

95 West 100 South, Suite 200  
Logan, UT 84321  
(435)755-0081

# Bear River Head Start's Mandatory Reporting Procedure

PS 1302.53(a)(2)(iii)

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Protecting Utah Children



## Our Duty to Utah Children

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Utah Law (62A-a-401) requires that if any person has reason to believe that a child has been subjected to incest, molestation, physical, emotional, or sexual abuse, or neglect or observes a child being subjected to conditions or circumstances which would reasonably result in abuse or neglect...he/she shall immediately notify the nearest peace officer, law enforcement agency, Office of the Division of Family Services, Department of Human Services, or Protective Services.

**Anyone who fails to obey this law commits a class “B” misdemeanor and is punishable by up to 6 months in jail and/or a \$1,000 fine.**

**Summarized from Utah Code 62A-a-401-415, 2006-2019**

## What happens when the report is made ?

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The person who observed or heard of the suspected abuse or neglect calls one of the agencies mentioned. *All reports of abuse or neglect of children are kept **strictly** confidential.*

Once the report is received, it is assigned by the Division of Family Services depending on the seriousness of the problem and the danger to the child. If necessary, law enforcement agencies may become involved.

The Division of Family Services approaches the parents or guardians with an offer to help them keep the child in their home if it can be done safely. (Less than 10% result in court action).

Parents and children are provided with appropriate assistance such as: mental health resources, sexual abuse treatment, and referrals to medical health professionals.

**IT IS OUR DUTY TO REPORT ALL CASES OF CHILD ABUSE WITHOUT EXCEPTION!**

## What Constitutes Abuse?

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**Physical Abuse:** Anything that leaves a mark such as a bruise, black eye, welt, bloody nose or internal injury.

**Neglect:** When a child is not receiving their basic needs. Basic needs include: shelter, food, appropriate clothing for the weather, love/attention, medical care, and education .

**Emotional Abuse:** An ongoing pattern of behavior that negatively affects the way a child feels or thinks about themselves. For example, consistently telling a child they are lazy, ugly, not good, stupid, etc.

**Sexual Abuse:** There are two types of sexual abuse: touching and non-touching.

Touching: Touching a child on their private parts of their body for no appropriate reason. Private parts are the parts covered by a swimming suit. An appropriate reason is changing a baby's diaper, helping a young child to bathe or having a check by a doctor.

Non-touching: Using sexually explicit language when talking to a child, taking inappropriate pictures of a child or asking a child to take inappropriate pictures of themselves and sending them through technology, forcing a child to undress, an adult exposing themselves to a child, or exposing a child to sexually explicit materials.

The above information is from Prevent Child Abuse Utah. For more information see [pcautah.org](http://pcautah.org).