

**New Frontiers Charter School
Sexual Abuse of Children Policy
As Required by HB 1041**

What is Sexual Abuse of a Child?

Sexual abuse in the Texas Family Code is defined as any sexual conduct harmful to a child's mental, emotional, or physical welfare as well as a failure to make a reasonable effort to prevent sexual conduct with a child.

Methods for Increasing Awareness Regarding Sexual Abuse of Children

Teachers : Teachers will be trained annually in all content areas addressed in the new Frontiers Charter School Plan for Addressing Sexual Abuse of Children. Training may be provided through campus staff, district staff, on-line or outside agencies as appropriate at the discretion of the campus administration.

Students : Presentations and/or trainings will be provided to increase awareness regarding sexual abuse of children with an emphasis on anti-victimization training.

Parents : Information concerning the district Plan for Addressing Sexual Abuse of Children will be posted in school newsletters, on the NFCS website, and in the student handbook. The student handbook (which is available both in printed format and online at the district website) will include the following information:

- The plan for addressing child sexual abuse, which may be accessed at the district website. As a parent, it is important for you to be aware of warning signs that could indicate a child may have been or is being sexually abused.
- A child who has experienced sexual abuse should be encouraged to seek out a trusted adult. Be aware as a parent or other trusted adult that disclosures of sexual abuse may be more indirect than disclosures of physical abuse, and it is important to be calm and comforting if your child, or another child, confides in you. Reassure the child that he or she did the right thing by telling you.
- If you permit your child to be in a situation where he or she may be injured, then you may be prosecuted for child abuse. The fact that the abuser is a parent or other family member does not remove your obligation to protect the child. If you are frightened for your own safety or that of your child, call 911.