

# QUEENSLAND | Reporting Requirements

All adults have a responsibility to report to the appropriate authorities if they believe or suspect a child or young person may be at risk of abuse or neglect.

All adults must report to the police if they are aware of or suspect a child is being sexually abused.

## YOUR OBLIGATIONS TO REPORT CHILD ABUSE

Under the *Children and Young People Act 2008*, there are two types of reporting – voluntary and mandatory reporting.

Everyone	Mandatory reporting
<p>The Queensland Government requires any person who is concerned about the safety and wellbeing of a child or young person to contact Child Safety to discuss and/or report their concern.</p>	<p>Mandatory reporting is a legal requirement for certain professionals to report to Child Safety if they form a reasonable suspicion that a child has suffered, is suffering or is at an unacceptable risk of suffering significant harm caused by physical or sexual abuse and may not have a parent able and willing to protect them.</p> <p>Mandatory reporters should also report to Child Safety Services a reasonable suspicion that a child is in need of protection caused by any other form of abuse or neglect.</p> <p>To check if you are a mandatory reporter:</p> <p><a href="https://www.csyw.qld.gov.au/child-family/protecting-children/about-child-protection/mandatory-reporting">https://www.csyw.qld.gov.au/child-family/protecting-children/about-child-protection/mandatory-reporting</a></p>

Regardless of what type of abuse or neglect you are reporting, or if you are reporting to child protection services or the Police, when making your report you will be asked to provide information about:

- the child – including name, age, and background
- the family – including general details of the parents and other significant people living in the home
- the reason for your concern – including what happened and where, who was involved, what led to the incident, any visible injuries, the impact on the child, who you believe to be responsible
- your details and connection to the child – your information will remain strictly confidential. The child protection services (or the Police) may just need to contact you if more information is needed

Be as detailed as possible. The information you provide is central to the decision-making process. The more information you can provide helps to make a timely and informed assessment of what further action should be taken.



**Other  
Safeguarding  
Resources**

My Salvos Toolkit -  
Safeguarding Children  
and Young People for  
Volunteers



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## HOW TO REPORT CHILD ABUSE

Any adult who reasonably believes that a sexual offence has been committed against a child, must make a report to the police. Failure to make a report is an offence.

**If a child is in immediate risk of harm, call the police on 000.**

What is concern?	What should I do?																
I'm not sure who to call or what to do	Contact the Child Safety Services' Enquiry Unit on 1800 811 810 Contact your Safeguarding Consultant																
Immediate risk of harm	Call 000 and make a report to the police																
Sexual abuse	Report to your local Police station <a href="https://www.police.qld.gov.au/stations">https://www.police.qld.gov.au/stations</a>																
I have reason to suspect a child is experiencing harm or is at risk of experiencing harm or neglect	During business hours contact the Child Safety Regional Intake Service:																
And/or	<table><tr><td>Brisbane</td><td>1300 682 254</td></tr><tr><td>Central QLD</td><td>1300 703 762</td></tr><tr><td>Far North QLD</td><td>1300 684 062</td></tr><tr><td>Ipswich</td><td>1800 316 855</td></tr><tr><td>North Coast</td><td>1300 703 921</td></tr><tr><td>North QLD</td><td>1300 706 147</td></tr><tr><td>South East QLD</td><td>1300 679 849</td></tr><tr><td>South West QLD</td><td>1300 683 390</td></tr></table>	Brisbane	1300 682 254	Central QLD	1300 703 762	Far North QLD	1300 684 062	Ipswich	1800 316 855	North Coast	1300 703 921	North QLD	1300 706 147	South East QLD	1300 679 849	South West QLD	1300 683 390
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I'm a mandated reporter	After hours and on weekends contact the Child Safety After Hours Service Centre on 1800 177 135																
To assist you in deciding whether a child is at risk, the Queensland Child Protection Services have developed an online Child Protection Guide (CPG). <a href="https://secure.communities.qld.gov.au/cpguide/engine.aspx">https://secure.communities.qld.gov.au/cpguide/engine.aspx</a>																	



### Protection of your identity

When you make a report, your identity is protected under law from being disclosed to any other person, except in certain exceptional circumstances. This applies to both voluntary and mandated reporters.

Information that identifies people who have made a report to child protection services and the contents of the reports and subsequent investigations are exempt from release under the Freedom of Information Act 1989.



### Protection from prosecution

When you make a report, you are required to be honest and to act without recklessness.

If after investigating your allegations child protection services determines the child is not at risk, you cannot be held legally or professionally liable if you have acted honestly and reasonably.

It is an offence to knowingly make a false or misleading report.

