

# Child Protection | Decision Tree

## For Teachers



**I am a teacher\*  
at a school.**

During the course of my engagement I have become aware  
or formed a reasonable suspicion that a child has been harmed  
or is likely to be harmed.

\* Teacher means an approved teacher under the  
*Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Act  
2005* employed at a school

Complete the school report form and speak to the SPO

A child is being sexually abused or is likely  
to be sexually abused or is the victim of a child sexual offence.  
*EGPA s366 & 366A; Criminal Code s229BC*

NO

YES



A child is being harmed due to physical, psychological  
or emotional abuse or neglect, or  
a child is likely to be harmed in such a way.  
*CPA s13E; and Accreditation Regulation s16(2)(a)*

Report to the Principal or a  
Director of the school's governing  
body **immediately**.  
The Principal or a Director of the  
school's governing body will report  
this to the police **immediately**.

SIGNIFICANT HARM TEST FULFILLED?  
The child has suffered, is suffering, or is at an  
unacceptable risk of suffering, significant harm.

Check if a report also needs  
to be made to Child Safety  
under the CPA.

YES

NO

PARENT TEST FULFILLED?  
The child may not have a parent,  
willing and able, to protect them from harm.

Principal may refer to FaCC  
with or without consent  
under the CPA.

SIGNIFICANT HARM/PARENT TEST  
You can confer with your Principal  
when applying these tests and  
use the Online Child Protection Guide.

YES

NO



Report to Child Safety as soon  
as reasonably practical.  
*CPA and/or school policy*

CPA: Child Protection Act 1999  
EGPA: Education (General Provisions) Act 2006  
FaCC: Family and Child Connect  
QCT: Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Act 2005  
Accreditation Regulation – Education (Accreditation of  
Non-State Schools) Regulation 2017  
SPO: Student Protection Officer

Disclaimer: This resource should be read in  
conjunction with the College's Child Protection  
Policy

# Child Protection | Summary of Reporting Harm

## For Teachers



**MATTHEW  
FLINDERS**  
Anglican College



**I am a teacher\*  
at a school.**

WHO	ABUSE TYPE	TEST	REPORT TO	LEGISLATION
All staff	Sexual	Awareness or a reasonable suspicion Sexually abused or likely to be sexually abused	Principal or Board, through to Police immediately	EGPA, sections 366 and 366A
Teacher	Sexual and physical	Significant harm; and Parent may not be willing and able	Confer with Principal, report to Child Safety	CPA, sections 13E and 13G
All staff	Physical, psychological, emotional, neglect, exploitation	Significant harm; and Parent may not be willing and able	Principal, through to Child Safety	Accreditation Regulations, section 16
All staff	Any	Not of a level that is otherwise reportable to Child Safety, refer with consent	Principal, through to Family and Child Connect	CPA, sections 13B and 159M
Principal	Any	Not of a level that is otherwise reportable to Child Safety, refer without consent	Family and Child Connect	CPA, sections 13B and 159M
Any member of the public	Any	Significant harm; and Parent may not be willing and able	Child Safety	CPA, section 13A
Any adult*	A child sexual offence against a child by another adult	Reasonable belief and, at the relevant time, the child is or was: – under 16 years; or – a person with an impairment of the mind	Police	Criminal Code section 229BC
Employing authorities (Principal/Board)	Harm or likely harm due to the conduct of a teacher	When you start dealing with an allegation; and When you finish dealing with an allegation	Queensland College of Teachers	QCT, sections 76 and 77

\* This obligation is fulfilled if the adult has already reported the information under any of the previous provisions, or believes on reasonable grounds that another person has done or will do so.

### OTHER RESOURCES TO SUPPORT YOUR DECISION MAKING

- [Online Child Protection Guide](#)
- [Traffic Light Resource for sexual behaviour in children and young people](#)
- [eSafety Commissioner – Toolkit for Schools](#)
- [Be You](#)
- [Headspace Schools](#)
- [National Association for Prevention of Child abuse and Neglect \(NAPCAN\)](#)
- [Queensland Family & Child Commission](#)
- [National Principles for Child Safe Organisations](#)

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