
Child Protection Update 4: Back to School

Time is short for everyone working for children right now. Here are the highlights:

Prioritize child protection in onboarding, induction, and staff professional development

In addition to [safer hiring protocols](#) and [background checks on all employees](#), schools should:

- Confirm identity - confirm all names employees have used previously (birth certificates and academic transcripts), check validity of documents in person. This includes back pages of US passports which may have sex offender registry information.
- Conduct social media searches in home language on all employee names with applicable modifiers: teacher, child protection, safeguarding

Ensure [staff training covers school policies and procedures around: mandatory reporting and first responder to disclosure; signs and indicators of abuse; and risk assessment](#) which includes identification of vulnerable children and professional [codes of conduct](#) and [remote learning expectations](#).

Prioritize student wellness and safety

Use this opportunity to implement or publicize:

- [Parent outreach](#) and support
- Multiple reporting pathways including anonymous reporting
- [Contact information](#) for local and online support for a variety of concerns including domestic violence, substance abuse, etc.
- Small group or advisory check ins with student [abuse prevention education](#) around abuse topics: child rights, body autonomy, consent, trusted adults and reporting persistence and online abuse prevention.
- Response team training on [allegation protocol](#) and [case review](#).

Finally, the International Centre Response Team (ICRT), funded by the US Department of State is available this school year. For more information see this short [video](#) and the [FAQs](#). Cases are anonymous and no identifiable information is shared with the Office of Overseas Schools.

Thank you for all you do to help keep children safe.

Global Educator Centre for Excellence

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