



DON'T STAY SILENT.

Report child abuse and neglect.

SMS the word "Help" to

079 769 1207 and we will

contact you (standard SMS rates

apply).



Western Cape
Government

Social Development

Don't Stay Silent.
Protect our children.

CHILD CARE AND PROTECTION

While it is mandatory for professionals such as teachers, legal and health practitioners, religious leaders, and volunteers to report any suspected child abuse, all citizens are responsible for taking care of the well-being of children in our communities. If you suspect a child is being abused, neglected or at high risk, it is your duty to report it.

Report child abuse and neglect. SMS the word “Help” to 079 769 1207 and we will contact you. (standard SMS rates apply). GBV Command Centre: 0800 428 428; Police: 10111 Childline: 116.

What are some of the signs of child abuse?

There are many signs and symptoms, these are just a few that should raise concern:

Signs of physical abuse:

- Suspicious injuries that don't match the explanation given.
- Unexplained injuries like bruises, burns or broken bones.

Signs of sexual abuse:

- The child says he/she is being sexually abused.
- The child shows sexualised behaviour that's unsuitable for his/her age.

Signs of neglect:

- The child is severely malnourished.
- The child has poor hygiene.
- The child never goes to school.

Signs of online abuse:

- Being secretive about who they are talking to, hiding computer screens or taking phone calls out of earshot.
- Having no explanation for owning new items like cell phones and clothes etc.