

What you can expect when you tell us about abuse

- Most importantly, we will listen attentively and let you know it was right to tell someone about your worries.
- We will stay calm and make sure that you feel safe and know that you are not to blame for inappropriate behavior by others.
- We will explain that we have to tell someone else about the abuse.
- We will only ask questions that establish what was done and who did it. We will not jump to conclusions or promise to take a specific action until the situation is thoroughly investigated.
- We will make detailed notes of what you say and the date and time of our conversation.
- We will contact the District 7210 Exchange Student Protection Officer immediately.
- We will assure you that you are not making things worse by reporting your concerns. Few things are worse than allowing child abuse to continue.

We have adopted the following exchange student protection code for Youth Exchange Officers, Other Volunteers and Host Families.

We will –

Do:

- Treat all young people with respect and be aware of their reactions to our tone of voice and manner.
- Remember that it is okay to touch young people in a way that is not intrusive or disturbing to him/her or to observers.
- Make sure that any allegations are recorded and acted upon, according to District 7210 Youth Protection Policy.

Do Not:

- Engage in rough physical games including horseplay.
- Use physical force in any way, especially as a form of punishment.
- Touch a young person in an intrusive or sexual manner.
- Make sexually suggestive comments to a young person, even as a joke.

Try to Avoid:

- Spending too much time alone with a youth exchange student. Such situations may lead to misunderstandings.