

PREVENTING CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE: What Should Parents Ask?

Children's Programs, School, Daycare, Sports Programs & Camps

- What safety measures do you have in place to protect against child sexual abuse?
- How does your program SCREEN employees?
If criminal background check ALONE, walk away, or be VERY PRESENT — volunteer yourself!
- Does SCREENING occur BEFORE an employee interacts with children in the program?
- Does your program utilize volunteers? If so, how? How are volunteers SCREENED?
If criminal background check ALONE, ask how volunteers are supervised while interacting with children, or be VERY PRESENT — volunteer yourself!
- Are employees and volunteers trained about the risk of child sexual abuse? If so, how?
- Does your program allow one-to-one interaction with children, where an employee (or volunteer) is alone with a single child?
- Do you have two adults at all times supervising children? If not, how are single employees or volunteers supervised while working with children?
- Schools: What are your social media policies concerning employees and students?
- Are staff / volunteers allowed to interact with children *outside* program parameters? If so, in what context?

Younger Children

- What is your diaper changing policy? Potty training policy? Bathroom supervision?
- Do older children or relatives of staff or volunteers ever 'drop in' or participate in care?
- What are the age differences in the program? (i.e. Will older/younger children be in the same room, on the playground together, or together for any purpose?)
- Do older and younger children use the same bathroom facilities? If so, how is this supervised?

Other questions may be asked related to actual practices in a program, but these questions will get you started.