

**Department: Human Resources**  
**Section: Employee and Labour Relations**

The Annapolis Valley Regional School Board recognizes all children have the right to live free from abuse and neglect. Protecting the emotional and physical well-being of children is of paramount importance. All school community members who have reasonable grounds to suspect that a student is or may be suffering or may have suffered from abuse have a legal and ethical duty to immediately report the suspicion and the information upon which it is based to the appropriate agency.

The Annapolis Valley Regional School Board is committed to:

- Protecting students from, and informing them of their rights and responsibilities with respect to all forms of child abuse.
- Ensuring that all school community members understand their rights, roles and responsibilities with respect to students.
- Ensuring that all school community members are diligent in not placing themselves in situations that can be viewed as placing students at risk.

The *Reporting Protocol: Suspected Child Abuse Policy* is written in accordance with the **Nova Scotia Children and Family Services Act**, the **Nova Scotia Education Act**, and **Nova Scotia Provincial Policy for Interviewing Children by Child Protection Social Workers in Public Schools**.

### **Monitoring**

- The Director of Human Resources is responsible for the implementation, monitoring and revision of this policy.
- This policy will be monitored annually.