

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 these 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.