



Administrative Procedure 1320 CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION AND EDUCATION (ERIN'S LAW)

Responsibility:	Superintendent, Student Achievement & Well-Being
Legal References:	<i>Education Act, section 170.0.1;</i> <i>Child, Youth and Family Services Act, section 125</i>
Related References:	<i>Policy/Program Memorandum 9 – Duty to Report Children in Need of Protection;</i> <i>Administrative Procedure 1310 – Anti-Sex Trafficking;</i> <i>Protocol and Guidelines for Reporting a Child in Need of Protection</i>
Effective Date:	September 2025
Revisions:	January 2026
Reviewed:	

1. Preamble

- 1.1 In Ontario, Erin's Law amends the *Education Act* to require school boards to establish a policy regarding the topics of child sexual abuse prevention and reporting.
- 1.2 Through education and the provision of information, the Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB) will empower students, families, caregivers and staff members to identify, prevent and report child sexual abuse.

2. Definition of Child Sexual Abuse

- 2.1 An act of a sexual nature with or without physical contact, committed by an individual without the consent of the person involved or through emotional manipulation or blackmail. Child sexual abuse can include a wide range of behaviours, such as inappropriate touching, exposing a child to sexual acts, making sexually explicit comments to a child, or using technology to ask for sexually explicit images from a child.

3. Education, Prevention and Provision of Information

- 3.1 The WRDSB will engage students in an age-appropriate manner regarding the topics of child sexual abuse prevention and reporting through the Health and Physical Education curriculum in grades 1–9 and through print resources in grades 10–12.
 - 3.1.1 Topics of child sexual abuse prevention and reporting will be considered Human Development and Sexual Health expectations in strand D of the curriculum; parents/guardians may request an exemption from instruction related to Human Development and Sexual Health expectations in accordance with Administrative Procedure 1238 – Exemption from Instruction Related to the Human Development and Sexual Health Expectations.
- 3.2 The WRDSB will ensure that information with respect to child sexual abuse prevention and reporting, including information on available counselling and resources for children who are sexually abused, is:

- 3.2.1 provided annually to all school-based staff members; and
- 3.2.2 made available to all members of the school community, including families and caregivers, via the WRDSB website.