

TO DO in case of child sexual abuse suspicion

NOT TO DO in case of child sexual abuse suspicion

Provide friendly and safe spaces for children in the classroom where they can share their experiences and identify the general situations that are making them feel uncomfortable. Help them learn the importance of asking for help from trusted adults and where they can seek this help.

Offer a space for students where they are able to feel understood, supported and comfortable.

Offer opportunities to individually and privately discuss any issues that may be worrying the child.

Coordinate with other educational or social services attended by the child in order to share information.

Without making it evident, be vigilant to the evolving behaviour of the child. Observe changes in the child's behaviour and whether there are any changes which are indicative of child sexual abuse.

Force a conversation with the student about the things that are bothering them.

Investigate the disclosure.

Insist on having a conversation with the student so that they can explain what is happening and what their concerns are.

If the child does not want to talk about what worries them, move on from the situation and leave it as merely a 'suspicion'.