Research and Evidence-Based Instruction on Child Abuse and Child Sexual Abuse

IC 20-30-5-5.7

Not later than December 15, 2018, and each December 15 thereafter, each public school, including a charter school and accredited nonpublic school shall provide age appropriate and research and evidence-based instruction on child abuse and child sexual abuse to students in kindergarten through grade 12. Instruction on child abuse and child sexual abuse may be delivered by a school safety specialist, school counselor, or any other person with training and expertise in the area of child abuse and child sexual abuse.

The following evidence-based practice registries list evaluated programs and practices to prevent child abuse and neglect, violence, juvenile delinquency, substance abuse, and other community concerns. Registries rate evidence-based practices according to their own criteria. The Indiana Department of Education doesn’t endorse individual registries or the programs listed. The following registries are provided as a resource.

- Blueprints for Violence Prevention
- California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare (CEBC)
- Evidence-Based Practice Registries
- OJJDP Model Programs Guide and Database
- Promising Practices Network

For a description of each of the registries, please visit the Child Welfare Information Gateway.

Below are a few examples of programs and curricula that have been shared as research-informed, promising, research and evidence-based, or evidence-based. For a full list, please refer to the registries noted above. New programs will be added as they are determined to be research and evidence-based as noted on the registries listed above.

Prevention and Instruction for Students:

- Who Do You Tell? (CEBC site)
• **Body Safety Training Workbook** (CEBC site)
  o The BST is a behaviorally based and developmentally appropriate curriculum for parents and teachers to instruct young children about personal safety. There are two versions of the workbook; one for parents and one for teachers. This workbook includes ten lessons and is appropriate for children **ages 3-8**, parents and teachers.

• **The Safe Child Program** (CEBC site)
  o A comprehensive curriculum which teaches prevention of sexual, emotional and physical abuse by people known to the child; prevention of abuse and abduction by strangers; and safety in self-care. Presented in a **preschool through third grade** series and teaches a broad base of life skills.

**Education & Programs for Schools & School Employees:**
Some evidence-based examples:

• **Commit to Kids**
  A program to help organizations create safe environments for children. It provides strategies, policies, and a step-by-step plan for reducing the risk of child sexual abuse. The program encourages organizations to take an active, participatory role in protecting children in their care.
  *Program Overview Guide*

• **Stewards of Children Prevention Training**
  A 2-hour training that teaches adults how to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. It integrates commentary from sexual abuse survivors, experts in the field, and other concerned adults all providing practical guidance for preventing and responding to child sexual abuse. It is available in both a facilitator-led and online model.