School Supervision Plans Involving Wards with Sexual Behavior Problems

The goal of the Department is to provide services that are individualized and developmentally appropriate for children or youth who have sexual behavior problems and to develop interventions that promote well-being by building on the child or youth’s strengths and take into account the social, emotional, developmental and environmental needs of each child. DCFS has Sexual Abuse Services Coordinators in every region whose responsibility is to complete a comprehensive screening when a child or youth exhibits sexual behavior problems, making recommendations that address any unmet need including needs not related to the sexual behavior problem.

Safety and supervision are primary concerns that must be addressed at home, in the community, and at school. The caseworker and supervisor must determine if there are concerns with safety or supervision in school for each child with sexually aggressive behavior. Some considerations are the nature of the offense(s) committed by the child, the age and gender of the target of abuse, and the adequacy of the supervision normally provided to students across school settings. At a minimum, this review should give consideration to academic and non-academic settings, including classroom, hallway, bathroom, recess, cafeteria, bus/transportation, physical education/locker room and before and after school.

When planned supervision is required in the school setting, the caseworker shall follow the Educational Protocol, completing the Educational Addendum, obtaining all the required signatures on the CFS 600-3, consent for Release of Information regarding Child/Youth who requires planned supervision. The Educational Addendum must be completed in coordination with the appropriate school staff that will provide supervision or intervention. Only those who need to be aware of the behavioral issues of the child or youth should be apprised of the plan. All parties informed of the ward’s behavior problems at school must be informed that information about the ward and/or the sexual behavior problem cannot be shared with others without the Guardian’s consent to do so.

When encountering problems, such as lack of cooperation from the school in developing a supervision plan or when the needs of the child or youth are difficult to meet within the school setting, the caseworker should contact the DCFS education advisor or POS education liaison for assistance.

Compiled by Center for Child Welfare and Education at NIU, 1-2008. Edited 8-12-16