



**Kids need schools to continue reporting abuse during the COVID-19 crisis.**  
Since schools have shut in New Mexico, child abuse reports have dropped nearly 50%.



## You May Be the Only Person to Act

Remember, if something does not look safe, sound safe, or feel safe—make a report.

### Signs of Concerns in the Virtual Environment:

- The child tells you they feel unsafe.
- Significant changes in the student's mood/behavior
- Looking disheveled (especially if this is new)
- Showing signs of worry (e.g. looking over their shoulder, wringing their hands)
- Not turning on camera or sitting in shadows
- Hiding parts of their body, (eg. hair or arm, blocking face)
- Repeated dressed in same clothing (especially if this is new)
- Changes in quality of work
- Lack of attendance/homework when they have virtual access
- No contact with the student/family after repeated attempts
- Note repeated late entries/abrupt departures

### Here are Some Tips to Help:

- Log in early, log out late
- Have office hours, give email address
- Be available
- Build rapport
- Ask them to set-up a well-lit work area
- Speak with students privately
- Check in regularly with students and/or caregivers.
- Ask questions, be curious:
  - ▶ "Give me one word that describes how you feel today?"
  - ▶ "How is learning from home different from learning at school?"
- Pay attention to background noises, home environment, people
- Create assignments that pair students to foster creating connections
- Encourage online connections to others
- **Video Resource:** [Recognizing & Reporting Child Abuse & Neglect During COVID 19](#)

You can be the **ONE** person who makes all the difference! Be the voice they don't have.



**If you suspect abuse and neglect, report it to Statewide Central Intake (SCI) (855) 333-SAFE or #SAFE from a cell phone.**