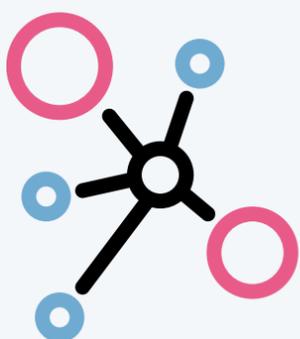


CHRISTOS COUNSELLING

Mandatory Reporting



Mandatory reporting laws aim to identify cases of child abuse and neglect, and to assist the individual children in these cases (Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, [Royal Commission], 2017).



Mandatory reporting laws set acceptable standards of behaviour for the community (Australian Law Reform Commission [ALRC], 2010), affect the policies and practices of child protection services and make the protection of children from abuse and neglect a professional responsibility.



In Qld, it is mandatory to report physical and sexual abuse, or only sexual abuse, depending on which legislation you are mandated to report under.



All jurisdictions specify the level of abuse that must be reported (i.e. significant, serious, detrimental).



Child sexual abuse is always considered a risk for significant harm and must always be reported.



Individuals, whether mandated reporters or not, may also refer child abuse and neglect that falls below statutory thresholds for mandatory reporting to child and family welfare agencies.