

## CREATING

# Trauma-Informed Classrooms

Trauma-informed classrooms are learning environments that work to address the educational needs of students who have experienced sexual assault or other trauma.

Teachers and school staff are in a unique position to provide supportive responses to trauma and create healthy learning environments for all students.



The King County Sexual Assault Resource Center (KCSARC) is here to help:

1. To speak with an advocate and learn more about KCSARC services, please call the 24-hour resource line at 1.888.99.VOICE
2. More information about KCSARC can also be found at [www.kcsarc.org](http://www.kcsarc.org)
3. To receive more information about educating on the topic of sexual assault, please reach out by email to [education@kcsarc.org](mailto:education@kcsarc.org)

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**Educators can support students who have experienced sexual assault by:**

- Believing the young person and offering support
- Clearly explaining their responsibilities as a mandated reporter both before and after a disclosure
- Working with the student to understand and address their safety concerns
- Having a system in place for students who need to miss class time
- Understanding the importance of confidentiality
- Offering resources for additional support

**All teachers and school staff are mandated reporters, meaning they are required to report suspected abuse or neglect of a person under the age of 18 to CPS/Law Enforcement. <sup>[1]</sup>**

**To effectively support survivors through the mandated reporting process educators should:**

- Inform students of their role as a mandated reporter
- Give students the opportunity to be present when a report is made
- Communicate with students throughout the reporting process
- Discuss any safety concerns students may have

Citation 1: RCW 26.44.030

**Educators can create trauma-informed spaces for all students by:**

- Setting clear expectations, boundaries, and establishing predictable routines
- Giving advanced notice of traumatic events that occur within class materials
- Providing resources that students can access independently
- Encouraging self care
- Leaving the door open