



## Indiana Department of Education 2019 Legislative Priority

### **Create more options for child abuse prevention education**

Senate Enrolled Act 355, from the 2017 legislative session, provided a public school, including a charter school and an accredited non-public school, must provide age appropriate, research, and evidence-based instruction on child abuse and child sexual abuse to students in kindergarten through grade 12.

Evidence-based prevention programs are becoming increasingly difficult to find. Changing the law to allow for researched-based programs, shown to be promising or effective, will provide schools with more local control and flexibility when determining which program best fits their needs.

#### **Quick Facts**

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that approximately one in six boys and one in four girls are sexually abused before the age of 18.
- According to the U.S. Department of Justice, only 10% of perpetrators were strangers to the child.
- One in five children will be abused or maltreated.
- 95% of abuse is preventable through education.