

WWCHS School Counseling Confidentiality Guidelines

Your confidentiality as a student is important. In the school counseling office, confidentiality is maintained with the following exceptions, as required by law and/or ethical standards:

1. Harm to self or others
This could include things like a suicide attempt or plan, cutting or other self-injury, eating disorders, fighting or other physical violence, illegal behaviors, threats, or anything that puts your health or safety, or someone else's health or safety, at risk.
2. Abuse or neglect
If you talk to a teacher/faculty member/office staff/administrator/counselor about abuse (physical, emotional, verbal, sexual, or other abuse), whether to yourself or to another minor, we are required by law to report to Child Protective Services and/or the police. If you tell us about an abuse case that's already been addressed by the CPS or the police, we still may need to make a call.
3. Court or other legal proceedings
By law, if we are subpoenaed (required by law to attend a hearing or other court proceeding), we cannot guarantee that your information will be kept confidential. We will always do our best to reveal as little as possible in a legal setting, but we must cooperate with the police, CPS, and the courts.

If there is ever a need to reveal information, we will do our best to let you know in advance, and work with you to handle the situation in a way that respects you, your feelings, and your needs.

I have read and understand the school counseling department's confidentiality guidelines and exceptions.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date