

# Principles of Protection

Everyone has the right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. However, abuse and neglect can occur anywhere -

Signs, symptoms or red flags you might see:

Aggression

Over sexualised behaviour

Unkempt appearance

Under 18 escorted by older 'boyfriend' / 'girlfriend'

Inconsistency in 'their' story

Withdrawn

Bruising

You might think:

It's probably nothing /  
I don't want to interfere /  
They're probably just having a bad day /  
I'm too busy to do anything about it anyway...

**Don't assume everything is fine, it may need further investigation.**

**Your concern on its own may seem small but shared with other key professionals may help build a picture to ensure the right support is in place.**

Contact the **police** if there is immediate **danger risk**.

See our A-Z of Safeguarding and relevant contact details below

## A-Z of Safeguarding

### What are we safeguarding children and vulnerable adults from?

**Domestic Abuse and or Violence** - Controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over, who are or have been intimate partners or family members.

**Emotional Abuse** - Deliberately trying to scare or humiliate someone, or isolating or ignoring them.

**Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)** - Procedures that intentionally alter or cause injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons.

**Financial Abuse** - Includes theft, fraud, exploitation, pressure in connection with wills, property or inheritance or financial transactions, or the misuse or misappropriation of property, possessions or benefits.

**Human Trafficking/Modern Slavery** - Recruiting, harbouring, transporting, providing, or obtaining a person for compelled labour or commercial sex acts through the use of force, fraud, or coercion.

**Neglect** - Ongoing failure to meet a person's most basic needs. Includes failure to protect someone from harm.

**Physical Abuse** - Deliberately hurting someone, includes hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, suffocating, fabrication of illness or deliberately inducing illness.

**Sexual Abuse** - May involve physical contact, including assault by penetration, or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing & touching. Also includes non-contact activities.

**Sexual Exploitation** - To coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person, under the age of 18, into sexual activity. The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual.

**Self-Neglect** - Lack of self-care.

**Radicalisation** - The process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

### If in doubt seek advice:

#### **NSPCC**

**Help for adults concerns about a child – 0800 800 5000**

**Help for children and young people – 0800 1111**

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/>

#### **Age Concern**

**0800 169 6565**

[https://www.ageuk.org.uk/globalassets/age-](https://www.ageuk.org.uk/globalassets/age-uk/documents/factsheets/fs78_safeguarding_older_people_from_abuse_fcs.pdf)

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