

# Safeguarding Children and Young People

## Level 1 Training

Level 1 training is for all staff within the Trust. This leaflet explains what Safeguarding Children and Young People involves.

As a staff member working within a healthcare setting you will frequently come into contact with children, young people and their families or carers.

You have a responsibility - in fact, a duty by law - to ensure that you play your part in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.

From reading this leaflet you will learn about the different categories of child abuse and how you might be able to recognise abuse. You will also know what to do and who to contact if you are concerned that a child is being abused or neglected.

## The Safeguarding team

Head of Safeguarding

Named Nurse for Safeguarding Children

Named Midwife for Safeguarding

Lead Nurse for Safeguarding Adults

Associate Professional Nurse for Safeguarding

Administrator for Safeguarding

Named Doctors Children's Safeguarding  
(available via switchboard)

On call Paediatrician  
(available via switchboard)

### Team Contact Numbers:

01905 733871 Ext 33735  
(Monday to Friday 09:00-16:30)

### Team Email Address:

[wah-tr.SafeguardingWorcsacute@nhs.net](mailto:wah-tr.SafeguardingWorcsacute@nhs.net)

Designated Nurse Worcestershire:  
Ellen Footman  
Tel 07885265970  
[ellen.footman@nhs.net](mailto:ellen.footman@nhs.net)

Designated Doctor Worcestershire:  
David Lewis  
Tel 07718118312  
[david.lewis5@nhs.net](mailto:david.lewis5@nhs.net)

The '**Safeguarding Pathway**' can be found on the main homepage of the Trust intranet

# Safeguarding Children and Young People

## Mandatory information for staff

IMPORTANT: PLEASE READ

Category of child abuse	Description	Signs	
<b>Emotional Abuse</b> Children in the UK experience frequent and severe maltreatment.	Emotional abuse is ill-treating a child causing severe and persistent, adverse effects on their development.	<b>Parents or carers may:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>consistently shame, humiliate or frighten the child</li> <li>reject the child</li> <li>isolate the child</li> <li>impose unreasonable expectations</li> </ul>	<b>Possible indicators of emotional abuse include:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>failure to grow or thrive</li> <li>sudden speech disorders</li> <li>excessive lack of confidence</li> <li>bedwetting/soiling</li> <li>self-harming</li> </ul>
<b>Physical Abuse</b> Children in the UK experience serious physical abuse at the hands of their parents/carers.	Physical abuse can involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. This also includes fabricating symptoms of or deliberately causing ill health to a child.	<b>Possible indicators of physical abuse include:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>unexplained injuries or delay in hospital presentation</li> <li>inconsistencies in history given</li> <li>bruising resembling hand or finger imprints or in unusual places</li> <li>bite marks or cigarette burns</li> <li>blunt instrument marks</li> <li>burns</li> <li>fractures and head injuries, particularly in children under 1</li> </ul>	
<b>Sexual Abuse</b> Some children aged 16 and under have experienced sexual abuse during childhood.	<b>Sexual abuse includes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forcing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening.</li> <li>The perpetrator forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities includes both penetrative and non-penetrative acts</li> <li>Non-touch activities including forcing a child to watch sexual acts, involving children in pornography and exploiting children</li> </ul>	<b>Possible indicators of sexual abuse include:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>pain, itching, bruising and bleeding to the genital or anal areas</li> <li>sexual knowledge inappropriate for age</li> <li>sexualised behaviour in young children</li> <li>sudden or unexplained changes in behaviour</li> <li>pregnancy or STI in a child under 13</li> </ul>	<b>Other types of abuse:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)</li> <li>Domestic Abuse</li> <li>Child sexual exploitation (CSE)</li> <li>Trafficking</li> <li>Cyber Abuse</li> <li>Fabricated induced illness</li> </ul>
<b>Neglect</b> Children in the UK experience serious absence of care at home during childhood.	Neglect involves the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical or emotional needs, likely to result in serious impairment of a child's health or development.	<b>Possible indicators of neglect include:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>failure to provide adequate food, shelter or clothing</li> <li>failure to seek timely and appropriate medical advice</li> <li>lack or inappropriate supervision</li> <li>lack of protection from danger or harm</li> </ul>	

### Why is safeguarding important?

Recent high profile cases such as baby Peter and Victoria Climbié have highlighted just how cruelly children can be treated by adults. By acting on your concerns you may help to prevent abuse, or further neglect, of a child.

### What is child abuse?

Child abuse is any action by another person – adult or child – that causes significant harm to a child. It can be physical, sexual or emotional, but can just as often be about a lack of love, care and attention. We know that neglect, whatever form it takes, can be just as damaging to a child as physical abuse.

An abused child will often experience more than one type of abuse, as well as other difficulties in their lives. It often happens over a period of time, rather than being a one-off event. And it can increasingly happen online.

It is estimated that over half a million children are abused in the UK each year. Children with an increased risk of abuse are those who have a disability. The abuser may be known to the child or, more rarely, a stranger.

### Recognising risks to children when working with adults

Hospital staff who work in adult services, such as the Emergency Department (A&E) and some outpatient services, may be in contact with parents whose problems are likely to adversely affect children in their care.

All staff must be aware of potential risks to the children of parents who have mental health, drug or alcohol issues, as well as those with learning difficulties.

Staff working with pregnant women must be particularly alert to the risks to unborn and newly-born babies.

If you have doubts or concerns about the quality of care that an adult in your care may be providing to their child/children, please discuss this with your line manager and contact the Safeguarding Team.

You should be alert to the risk of Domestic abuse and sexual violence. It is important that opportunities are made to speak to the individual alone and that the question is asked in a way the individual can understand. This risk is increased during pregnancy

### What do I do if I feel that a child is being abused?

All staff must be aware of the Safeguarding Children Policy & Procedure document available on the Trust intranet homepage.

When you have concerns you should initially discuss these with your line manager who can then contact the Safeguarding Team if required for further support and advice.

### Further training

All staff must maintain a level of knowledge through mandatory training. Courses are delivered in-house via e-learning or face to face training on a regular basis.

Different levels of training are accessed, depending on your role and responsibilities with children and parents/carers. Your manager will be able to give you more information

