



If you are aware that a child or adult could be at risk of, or is being abused it is important that you let the right people know so that the right help can be given to the child and their family.

Doing nothing is not an option!

Phone Shropshire Council Dedicated Safeguarding Lines

First Point of Contact (FPOC) **0345 678 9021**

Access to Compass - Children's Social Care Front Door and Targeted Early Help

First Point of Contact (FPOC) **0345 678 9044**

Adult Social Care and Safeguarding Concerns

Telford and Wrekin Referral Number 01952 385385

Designated Officer in the Local Authority (LADO) 0345 678 9021

(If you have a Safeguarding concern about the behaviour of a member of staff or volunteer)

Out of hours Emergency Duty Teams:

Shropshire 03456 789040 Telford & Wrekin 01952 676500

Public Protection Unit (West Mercia Police) 0300 333 3000

Police Emergency 999 Non-emergency 101

www.shropshire.gov.uk click 'report it' button on home page

Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedures Manual

West Midlands Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedures Manual are for Shropshire along with nine other Local Safeguarding Children Boards in the West Midlands.

<http://westmidlands.procedures.org.uk/>

1. Statutory Child Protection Procedures
2. Regional Safeguarding Guidance
3. Local Area Specific Safeguarding Information and Procedures (please select Shropshire)

Support Services

- AXIS (for adult and child survivors of sexual abuse) 01743 357777 01952 278000
- Bee U 0300 124 0093
- Child Trafficking and Advice Centre (CTAC) 0800 107 7057
- ChildLine 0800 1111
- Free, safe and anonymous online support for young people over the age of 10 is offered Kooth.com
- ISVA (Independent Sexual Violence Advisor) service 01743 243007
- Men's advice line support for male victims of domestic abuse 0808 801 0327
- NSPCC (24 hour) 0808 800 5000
- Prevent radicalisation prevent@warwickshireandwestmercia.pnn.police.uk 01386 591835
- Respect Helpline (for perpetrators of domestic abuse) 0808 802 4040
- Ring to access any Shropshire Group for Victims/Survivors of DA
- Samaritans 08457 909090
- Shropshire Domestic Abuse Helpline 24 hours 0800 783 1359
- Shropshire Domestic Abuse Service SDAS 0300 303 1191
- Shropshire Family Information Service 01743 254400
- Victim Support (24 hours) 0808 168 9111
- Young Addaction info@shropshirerecovery.com 01743 294700

SSCB Training links and Contacts

Access SSCB Multi-agency Training Schedule to book onto multi-agency training courses. In response to emerging national and local safeguarding themes, publications, statutory frameworks, research and legislation training all modules are reviewed regularly.

SSCB Multi-agency Training Tel: 01743 254370

Email: sscbtraining@shropshire.gov.uk

To view the current Training Schedule and to book training -

<http://www.safeguardingshropshireschildren.org.uk/professionals-and-volunteers/safeguarding-training/>

Access free online training directly from Home Office or via SSCB:

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) <https://www.fgmelearning.co.uk/>

Forced Marriage www.forcedmarriagelearning.co.uk

PREVENT www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/b/screen1

Department of Health (DoH) to help healthcare professionals and partners protect and identify young people at risk of abuse or exploitation <http://www.seenandheard.org.uk/>

SSCB currently offer various certificated e-learning modules. Information on all e-learning modules available is in the current SSCB Multi-agency Safeguarding Training Schedule and bookings can be made through the SSCB webpage

<http://www.safeguardingshropshireschildren.org.uk/professionals-and-volunteers/safeguarding-training/>

Shropshire Strengthening Families through Early Help



Early help means taking action to support a child, young person or their family as soon as a problem emerges. It can be required at any stage in a child's life, from pre-birth to adulthood, and applies to any problem or need that the family can't deal with alone.

<http://new.shropshire.gov.uk/early-help>

email: earlyhelp@shropshire.gov.uk

View training available on the SSCB Multi-agency Safeguarding Training Schedule and book courses via the webpage <http://www.safeguardingshropshireschildren.org.uk/professionals-and-volunteers/safeguarding-training/>

New training courses and workshops to complement the Early Help process include:

- The role of the lead professional
- Capturing the voice of the child and family
- Assessment and analysis skills
- SMART action planning
- Information sharing and consent

ECINS process training and support has been designed to meet the needs of frontline workers and their managers

- Introduction to ECINS (for those interested in using ECINS)

For those signed up to use ECINS

- Look up and recording on ECINS
- Creating a case on ECINS
- Using the Family Action Plan Effectively & Case Closure on ECINS

Locality meetings are offered every half term across the county.

DEFINITIONS OF ABUSE

Emotional Abuse

The persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to children that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may include not giving the child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them or 'making fun' of what they say or how they communicate.

It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond the child's developmental capability, as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing the child participating in normal social interaction.

It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying (including cyber bullying), causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, though it may occur alone.

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Emotional – Behavioural Observations

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical, mental and emotional development lags, • An extreme change in views, • Acceptance of punishment which appears excessive, • Over-reaction to mistakes, • Continual self-deprecation, • Sudden speech disorders, • Language delay, • Fear of new situations. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inappropriate emotional responses to painful situations, • Repetitive or habitual behaviours (such as hair twisting, thumb sucking, rocking), • Self-mutilation, • Fear of parents being contacted, • Extremes of passivity or aggression, • Being the scapegoat in the family, • Coldness/hostility/constant criticism. • Online privacy settings are not activated. |
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Domestic Abuse

Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass but is not limited to the following types of abuse:

- psychological
- physical
- sexual
- financial
- emotional

Controlling behaviour is: a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.

Coercive behaviour is: an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim." *

This definition, which is not a legal definition, includes so called 'honour' based violence, female genital mutilation (FGM) and forced marriage, and is clear that victims are not confined to one gender or ethnic group.

<https://www.gov.uk/domestic-violence-and-abuse> 2015

Prevent

Prevent is one of the most challenging parts of the counter terrorism strategy, because it operates in the pre-criminal space, before any criminal activity has taken place.

It is about safeguarding - supporting and protecting those people who might be susceptible to radicalisation, and ensuring that individuals and communities have the resilience to resist violent extremism.

<https://www.westmercia.police.uk/article/7818/Prevent---Play-your-part>

The aim of the Prevent strategy is to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

Prevent Duty Guidance: for England and Wales July 2015. HM Government

Neglect

The persistent failure to meet the child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development.

Neglect may occur during pregnancy as a result of maternal substance abuse

Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to:

provide adequate food, clothing and shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment);

protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger;

ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers);

or ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment.

It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to a child's basic emotional needs.

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Neglect – Physical Observations

These may include:

- Poor personal hygiene,
- Poor state of clothing,
- Poor growth pattern,
- Untreated medical problems,
- Non-organic 'failure to thrive,'
- Poor skin tone and hair tone,
- Emaciation, pot belly, short stature, obesity.

Neglect – Behavioural Observations

These may include:

- Constant hunger or tiredness,
- Frequent lateness or non-attendance at school,
- Arrive early or leaving late from school,
- Destructive tendencies,
- Low self-esteem,
- Obsessive, ritualistic or unusual behaviours,
- No social relationships,
- Running away,
- Compulsive stealing or scavenging.

Graded Care Profile (GCP2) Licensed by NSPCC

GCP2 is an evidence based assessment tool which evaluates levels of parental care, assessing a child's lived experience. Helps to identify children at risk of neglect at the earliest opportunity, enabling professionals to work collaboratively, responding promptly and effectively to address the underlying factors with parents. Using GCP2 effectively helps to ensure that our focus is on the experiences of children, that children are protected from harm and the long term effects of childhood neglect are minimised.

Become an accredited user of GCP2

<http://www.safeguardingshropshireschildren.org.uk/professionals-and-volunteers/safeguarding-training/>

Physical Abuse

A form of abuse which may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating, or otherwise causing physical harm to a child.

Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child.

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Common Sites for Accidental Injuries

Nose, forehead, chin, forearm, elbows, bony spine, hip, knees

Common Sites for Non-accidental Injuries

Eyes, ears and mouth, skull and neck, cheek, side of the face, genitals, upper and inner arm, chest and shoulders, back, buttocks, thighs, knees.

Signs of Non-accidental Injuries may be:

- Bruising, grasp marks, linear marks, scalds or burns and other types of injuries i.e. fractures, torn frenulum.
- Burns and scalds,
- Cigarette burns,
- Swelling and lack of normal use of limbs,
- Human bite marks,
- Untreated injuries,
- Any serious injury with no explanation or conflicting explanations,
- Ligature marks.

Physical - Behavioural Observations

These may include:

- Unusually fearful with adults,
- Unnaturally compliant to parents,
- Refusal to discuss injuries or a fear of medical help,
- Withdrawal from physical contact,
- Aggression towards others,
- Wearing cover-up clothing,
- Any behaviours that you would not expect to see in a child, at their age or stage in development.

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is a procedure where the female genital organs are injured or changed, but there is no medical reason for this. It can seriously harm the health of women and girls in the long term. Many men and women in practising communities are unaware of the relationship between FGM and the severe harm it causes to the health of women and girls. All types of FGM are extremely harmful with many short and long term health implications. It's sometimes known as 'female circumcision' or 'female genital cutting'. It's can be carried out on young babies, girls and women. FGM procedures can cause: severe pain and bleeding, emotional and psychological shock, infections, problems with giving birth later in life - including the death of the baby

Is illegal in the UK. It's also illegal to take a British national or permanent resident abroad for FGM or to help someone trying to do this.

Department of Health, January 2017

60,000 girls living in the UK could be at risk of female genital mutilation (FGM).

Sexual Abuse

Involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening.

The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example, rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing

They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual images, watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the internet).

Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children.

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Sexual Abuse - Physical Observations

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damage/ soreness in genital area, anus or mouth • Sexually transmitted infections • Unexpected pregnancy especially in very young girls | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bruising giving the impression of sexual assault • Unexplained recurrent urinary tract infections and discharges or abdominal pain |
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Sexual Abuse - Behavioural Observations

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexual knowledge inappropriate for age, • Sexualised behaviour in young children, • Sexually provocative or promiscuous behaviour, • Hinting at sexual activity, and about secrets they cannot tell, • Secretive behaviour online or offline, • Inexplicable falling off in school performance, • Sudden apparent changes in personality, • Lack of concentration, restlessness, aimlessness, • Low self-image/ low self-esteem, | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased or excessively secretive use of mobile phone and/or internet activity, • Socially withdrawn, • Poor trust in significant adults, • Regressive behaviour, onset of wetting, by day or night, • Onset of insecure, clinging behaviour, • Running away from home, • Suicide attempts, self-mutilation, self-disgust, • Eating disorders, • Exaggerated or uncontrollable emotions, • Substance, alcohol misuse, • Severe sleep disturbance. |
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Introduction to Contextual Safeguarding

Contextual Safeguarding is an approach to understanding, and responding to, young people's experiences of significant harm beyond their families. It recognises that the different relationships that young people form in their neighbourhoods, schools and online can feature violence and abuse. Parents and carers have little influence over these contexts, and young people's experiences of extra-familial abuse can undermine parent-child relationships. Therefore children's social care practitioners need to engage with individuals and sectors who do have influence over/within extra-familial contexts, and recognise that assessment of, and intervention with, these spaces are a critical part of safeguarding practices. Contextual Safeguarding, therefore, expands the objectives of child protection systems in recognition that young people are vulnerable to abuse in a range of social contexts.

Contextual Safeguarding (2017) University of Bedfordshire

Child Sexual Exploitation

Child sexual exploitation is a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator. The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology.

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Peer on Peer Abuse

Recognition should be given to the fact that children are capable of abusing their peers. Abuse is abuse and should never be tolerated or passed off as “banter” or “part of growing up”. Victims of peer abuse should be supported as they would be if they were the victim of any other form of abuse, in accordance with this policy.

Peer on peer abuse occurs when a young person is exploited, bullied and/or harmed by their peers who are the same age or similar age. Peer-on-peer abuse can relate to various forms of abuse (not just sexual abuse and exploitation, some forms of peer on peer abuse are:

Sexting

Sexting is when someone sends or receives a sexually explicit text, image or video.

This includes sending ‘nude pics’, ‘rude pics’ or ‘nude selfies’. Pressuring someone into sending a nude picture can happen in any relationship and to anyone, whatever their age, gender or sexual preference.

However, once the image is taken and sent, the sender has lost control of the image and these images could end up anywhere. By having in their possession, or distributing, indecent images of a person under 18 on to someone else, young people are not even aware that they could be breaking the law as stated as these are offences under the Sexual Offences Act 2003.

Initiation/Hazing

Hazing is a form of initiation ceremony which is used to induct newcomers into an organisation such as a private school, sports team etc. There are a number of different forms, from relatively mild rituals to severe and sometimes violent ceremonies.

The idea behind this practice is that it welcomes newcomers by subjecting them to a series of trials which promote a bond between them. After the hazing is over, the newcomers also have something in common with older members of the organisation, because they all experienced it as part of a rite of passage. Many rituals involve humiliation, embarrassment, abuse, and harassment.

Prejudiced Behaviour

The term prejudice-related bullying refers to a range of hurtful behaviour, physical or emotional or both, which causes someone to feel powerless, worthless, excluded or marginalised, and which is connected with prejudices around belonging, identity and equality in wider society – in particular, prejudices to do with disabilities and special educational needs, ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds, gender, home life, (for example in relation to issues of care, parental occupation, poverty and social class) and sexual identity (homosexual, bisexual, transsexual).

Teenage relationship abuse

Teenage relationship abuse is defined as a pattern of actual or threatened acts of physical, sexual, and/or emotional abuse, perpetrated by an adolescent (between the ages of 13 and 18) against a current or former partner. Abuse may include insults, coercion, social sabotage, sexual harassment, threats and/or acts of physical or sexual abuse. The abusive teen uses this pattern of violent and coercive behaviour, in a heterosexual or same gender relationship, in order to gain power and maintain control over the partner.

Recognise - Respond - Record

To do list:

- Put the contact number for FPOC (Compass) somewhere where it will be easily available
- Look at Shropshire Safeguarding Children Board website and put it in your 'favourites'
- Look at your agencies Safeguarding and Child Protection policy
- Identify your Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Find out how and where you are expected to record concerns, who you should report them to/share information with in a timely manner
- Think about any further Safeguarding/Child Protection training needs you or your agency might have
- Consider how you ensure that your Safeguarding/Child Protection responsibilities are known to those who use your services

Useful Websites

actionforprisonersfamilies.org.uk promotes the needs of families affected by imprisonment

axiscounselling.org.uk support service for adult and child survivors of sexual abuse

brook.org.uk/our-work/category/sexual-behaviours-traffic-light-tool -Brook sexual behaviours traffic light tool supports professionals working with children and young people by helping them to identify and respond appropriately to sexual behaviours.

ceop.police.uk online safety and protection

childline.org.uk supporting children and Young People to identify and report abuse

educateagainsthate.com gives parents, teachers and school leaders practical advice on protecting children from extremism and radicalisation.

karmanirvana.org.uk/help-line supporting victims of honour crimes and forced

mappa.justice.gov.uk MAPPA - Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements. It is the process through which the Police, Probation and Prison Services work together with other agencies to manage the risks posed by violent and sexual offenders living in the community in order to protect the public. These arrangements are coordinated across West Mercia by the Warwickshire and West Mercia Community Rehabilitation Company (WWMCRC)

mensadviceline.org.uk/ advice and support for men experiencing domestic violence and abuse

new.shropshire.gov.uk/early-help early help means taking action to support a child, young person or their family as soon as a problem emerges.

nspcc.org.uk working to identify and prevent Child abuse

nspcc.org.uk/.../research-and-resources/sign-up-to-caspar receive regularly newsletters by subscribing to CASPAR, NSPCC current awareness service for child protection practice, policy and research

safeguardingshropshireschildren.org.uk

Shropshire Safeguarding Children Board website - designed to provide useful information and advice for professionals, parents and children.

shropsdas.org.uk – Shropshire Domestic Abuse Service exists to provide safe accommodation, an outreach and a children/young people's service to adults and their children whose lives are

affected by domestic abuse and violence; to empower them, age appropriately, to make decisions for themselves about their own futures.

shropshire.gov.uk/crime-and-community-safety/domestic-abuse/multi-agency-risk-assessment-conference-marac/ The MARAC, which stands for Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference, is a meeting between representatives from different organisations in Shropshire to discuss the safety, health and wellbeing of people experiencing domestic abuse, and to provide a safety plan for them and their children.

stopitnow.org.uk preventing Child Sexual Abuse

talktofrank.com/ - friendly confidential drugs advice, including drugs A-Z, know whats what, glossary of drugs has all the information and the slang.

westmercia.police.uk/article/7818/Prevent---Play-your-part is about safeguarding - supporting and protecting those people who might be susceptible to radicalisation, and ensuring that individuals and communities have the resilience to resist violent extremism.

westmidlands.procedures.org.uk These child protection and safeguarding procedures are for Shropshire along with 9 other Local Safeguarding Children Boards in the West Midlands.

womensaid.org.uk supporting women and children experiencing domestic abuse

Recommended Publications to Support Training

- Bentley, H. et al (2018) **How safe are our children? The most comprehensive overview of child protection in the UK 2018**. London: NSPCC.
- Brandon et al. (2014) **Missed opportunities: indicators of neglect – what is ignored, why, and what can be done?** Research report.
- **Information Sharing: advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services.** (2018) www.education.gov.uk
- **Keeping Children Safe in Education: for schools and colleges** (2018) Department for Education
- **Multi-agency Guidance on Threshold Criteria to help support Children, Young People and their Families in Shropshire. Accessing the Right Service at the Right Time.** (2017). SSCB
- NSPCC (2017) **Not alone anymore: Childline annual review 2016/17**. London: NSPCC.
- **Protecting children from harm: A critical assessment of child sexual abuse in the family network in England and priorities for action.** (2015) Children’s Commissioner.
- **Reflections on child sexual exploitation: a report by Louise Casey CB.** (2015)
- Sidebotham, P. et al. (2016) **Pathways to harm, pathways to protection: a triennial analysis of serious case reviews 2011 to 2014: final report.** [London]: Department for Education
- **What to do if you’re worried a child is being abused, Advice for Practitioners.** (2015) www.education.gov.uk
- **Working Together to Safeguard Children, A guide to interagency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.** (2018) www.education.gov.uk