

What will happen to the child and family?

Once enquires have been completed one or more of the following might happen:

- no further action
- support or advice offered to the family
- referral to another agency for a service
- referral to the appropriate legal system

Where Child Protection concerns are identified:

An inter agency meeting will be held to decide the best way to protect the child. This will include people who have a knowledge of the child and family e.g health visitor, police, teacher, social worker and parents/carers. In a small number of cases, immediate, emergency action may be necessary to protect the child.

What might happen if you don't report your concern?

If you have a worry about a child and don't share your concerns a child may be harmed.

If you are worried or know of a child who could be at risk of being abused, you can talk to staff at one of the following numbers overleaf.

List of useful local contact numbers

Social Work

Advice & Response
Out of hours - West of Scotland Standby Service
0141 775 1311
0800 811 505

Strathclyde Police

Kirkintilloch Police Office
0141 532 4400

Scottish Children's Reporter Administration

0141 567 7900

Your local health visitor who can be found through your local surgery or health centre or contact NHS 24

08454 24 24 24

Parentline Scotland ChildLine Scotland National Helpline

0808 800 2222
0800 1111
0800 022 3222

This leaflet has been produced by the Delivering for Children and Young People Partnership, who consist of representatives from across the main statutory organisations in the area. One of the Partnership's main duties is to ensure that local agencies work together to protect children. Working together with the community we will help ensure that all children and young people in our area are protected from harm and given the best possible chance in life.

本文件可按照要求翻譯成中文，如有此需要，請電 0141 578 8152。

Gabhaidh an sgrìobhainn seo cur gu Gàidhlig ma tha sin a dhìth orih. cuir fòn gu 0141 578 8152

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ਇਸ ਯਾਤਰੇ ਦਾ ਮੋਹਾ ਕਰਨ ਤੇ ਪਿਸੀ ਵਿਚ ਯਠੇਵਾ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ। ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ 0141 578 8152 ਡੈਲ ਕਰੋ।

0141 578 8152

This leaflet has been produced by:



Delivering for Children & Young People in East Dunbartonshire

Child Protection



www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Delivering for Children & Young People in East Dunbartonshire

Child Protection

Information for people worried about child abuse or neglect





It's everyone's responsibility to protect children.

All children have a right to grow up in a caring and safe environment.

Introduction

All adults have a responsibility to protect children, including:

- parents
- family members
- friends
- neighbours
- professionals
- members of the public

What is child abuse?

There are different types of abuse:

- physical injury - hit, kicked, punched
- physical neglect - not being properly fed or clothed, poor hygiene
- sexual abuse - inappropriate sexual behaviour or language, indecent assault, sexual intercourse
- emotional abuse - constantly criticised, ignored, humiliated, exposed to family violence

What might make you concerned?

Children rarely tell if they are being abused, however, there may be signs which make you concerned and may be an indication of a child being abused or neglected:

The child may:

- have unexplained bruising or bruising in an unusual place
- appear afraid, quiet or withdrawn
- be afraid to go home
- appear hungry, tired or unkempt
- be left unattended or unsupervised
- have too much responsibility for their age
- be acting out in a sexually inappropriate way
- be misusing drugs or alcohol

The adult:

- may be acting in a violent or sexual manner towards a child
- may be misusing drugs or alcohol while caring for a child
- may be verbally abusive towards a child

These are some examples of what might make you worried about a child, or you may know of other things that are happening. If you notice any of these signs and/or are worried, you need to take action to protect the child.

What to do if you are concerned?

If you are concerned about a child speak to someone. This might be a health visitor, nursery staff, teacher, family doctor, social worker, police officer or children's reporter.

Make sure you:

- act promptly
- note your concerns
- give as much information as you know about the child and family

Will I need to give my name?

No. However remaining anonymous may cause difficulties in establishing whether or not a child is at risk of abuse.

All information received will be treated confidentially and with discretion. Any details received, including your name, will not be revealed unless the child's safety requires it.

What happens next?

All information received is treated seriously and will be acted upon. This might include:

- checking agency records and gathering information
- speaking to the child and family and assessing the situation
- making sure the child is safe

