

Safeguarding Information for Volunteers

What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding is what we do to protect the health, well-being and human rights of individuals.

Safeguarding allows children, young people and adults to live free from abuse, harm and neglect.

All professionals have a duty to safeguard. As a volunteer it is important that you understand how to spot the signs of abuse and neglect and how to report any concerns that you may have.



A child or young person means anyone under the age of 18.

It means protecting individual children identified as suffering or likely to suffer significant harm



An adult at risk is anyone over the age of 18, who has :

- needs for care and support or is experiencing,
- or is at risk of, abuse or neglect, and
- as a result of those needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it



Remember '**It could happen here**' when safeguarding children and adults is concerned.



We are all responsible for the welfare of children and adults – **ALWAYS ACT** and report any concerns that you have.

There are 4 types of abuse for children: There are 10 types of abuse for adults at risk:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neglect • Physical Abuse • Sexual Abuse • Emotional Abuse | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical • Domestic Abuse • Sexual • Neglect or acts of omission • Self-Neglect | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Psychological or Emotional • Financial or material • Modern slavery • Discriminatory • Organisational |
|--|---|---|



Anyone can make a referral to Children's or Adult's Social Care.

Children and adults may be abused in any setting and they may be abused by another adult/ adults or another child or children.

Abuse, harassment and harm can happen to anyone.
It's not always visible and often not spoken about.



Whistleblowing

If you are concerned about the behaviour of a staff member at an organisation that cares for children or adults, this may include a hospital, care home, school or nursery, you should report your concerns to your safeguarding lead or head teacher in the first instance.

Alternatively regarding :-

- Children - you can contact the Designated Officer on 07812140002 or via email tania.brown@tameside.gov.uk
- Adults - you can contact Adult Social Care 0161 922 4888



What do I need to do?

Know how to report your concerns –

If you believe a person to be at immediate risk of harm or in need of emergency medical attention call the emergency services on 999

Otherwise if you are worried about a child or young person call Tameside Children's Social Care on 0161

342 4101 or 0161 342 2222 if out of office hours.

Types of abuse explained

Type of abuse	What is it?	Things to be concerned about?
Neglect	This is the most common type of abuse and means that a parent or carer is failing to meet the basic needs of a person.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor appearance and hygiene, smelly, dirty, unwashed, not wearing suitable clothes for the weather. Being hungry and not being given food. Having untreated health problems, such as nappy rash, tooth ache, eczema, head lice., untreated injuries.
Physical Abuse	<p>It's important to remember that physical abuse is intentionally causing physical harm to a person.</p> <p>It also includes making up the symptoms of an illness or causing a child to become unwell.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unexplained injuries or regular visits to A & E Bruising, bites, cigarette burns or scalds.
Sexual Abuse	<p>This is when a person is forced or tricked into sexual activities.</p> <p>They might not understand that what's happening is abuse or that it's wrong and they might be afraid to tell someone.</p> <p>Sexual abuse can happen anywhere: it can happen in person or online.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being forced to engage in sexual activities or conversations online or through a smart phone. Making a child or adult at risk of harm; watch, view or share sexual images of themselves or someone else. Showing a child or adult at risk of harm; pornography. Rape, sexual assault or an indecent assault of an adult or child.
Emotional Abuse	<p>Emotional abuse is any type of abuse that involves deliberately trying to scare, humiliate, isolate or ignore a person.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Threatening, shouting or calling someone names. Exposing a someone to upsetting situations, like domestic abuse or drug taking. Not showing any emotional when interacting with a child. An air of silence when a particular person is present.
Domestic Abuse	<p>This is controlling or threatening behaviour between partners or family members.</p> <p>Men and women can be victims of domestic abuse and it can be very harmful for children to witness it.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low self-esteem Feeling that the abuse is their fault when it is not Physical evidence of violence such as bruising, cuts, broken bones Verbal abuse and humiliation in front of others Fear of outside intervention Damage to home or property Isolation – not seeing friends and family Limited access to money
Financial or material abuse	This includes theft, fraud or Scamming.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unexplained lack of money. Someone being in control of their bank cards or spends.

Types of abuse explained

Type of abuse	What is it?	Things to be concerned about?
Modern Slavery	Adults and children are forced to work – through coercion, control or physical threat. They are often trapped and controlled by an ‘employer’, through mental or physical abuse or the threat of abuse.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signs of physical or emotional abuse • Appearing to be malnourished, unkempt or withdrawn • Isolation from the community, seeming under the control or influence of others • Living in dirty, cramped or overcrowded accommodation and/or living and working at the same address • Lack of personal effects or identification documents • Always wearing the same clothes • Avoidance of eye contact, appearing frightened or hesitant to talk to strangers • Fear of law enforcers
Discriminatory Abuse	Unequal treatment based on age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion and belief, sex or sexual orientation .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The person appears withdrawn and isolated. • Being harassed or insulted.
Organisational or Institutional Abuse	This includes neglect and poor standards of care which are provided by an organisation. This can happen in a care home, hospital or someone’s own home.,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Few social activities. • The basic needs not being met, such as food, drink and clean clothing. • People being hungry and dehydrated. • Not receiving the correct medication or treatment.
Neglect / Acts of Omission	Failure to provide or allow access to food, shelter, clothing, heating, stimulation and activity, personal or medical care or providing care that a person dislikes due to religious, cultural beliefs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malnutrition and not receiving the correct levels of food and drink. • Untreated medical problems. • Bed sores • Over use of medicines to sedate
Self Neglect	Lack of self-care to an extent that it threatens personal health and safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very poor personal hygiene and Unkempt appearance • Lack of essential food, clothing or shelter • Malnutrition and/or dehydration • Living in squalid or unsanitary conditions • Hoarding • Collecting a large number of animals in inappropriate conditions • Non-compliance with health or care services • Inability or unwillingness to take medication or treat illness or injury