

What to do if you are worried that a child is being abused or neglected

I have concerns about a child's welfare



Where a young person discloses abuse or neglect, they (and the alleged abuser) should not be questioned further, but a record made of what has been said. These concerns should be passed to: Ben Sillince, the Designated Safeguarding Lead, or David Jeanneret, Richard Walker or Sally Jenkins as Deputy Safeguarding Leads. They will take appropriate action, and may discuss the case with the Bristol North Schools Safeguarding Advisor. E.g. whether to inform parents of the welfare concern (if to do so would not place a child at risk) or check if there are current or previous child abuse/welfare concerns.

Remember that if a child is at risk of serious / immediate harm and the designated member of staff is not available you should make a referral to First Response directly.

The BFS safeguarding policy provides further detail.



Still have concerns? Refer to children's social care team.



Does a child or young person in Bristol need support or safeguarding?

FIRST RESPONSE

0117 903 6444

The right help, in the right place, at the right time

When you call we will ask you some questions to work out the best route for helping the child, young person and/or family.

If it is not a child protection issue, you will need to have spoken to the parent/carer or young person to get their consent before calling.

We'll also ask you if the parent/carer has agreed to us safely sharing information between children's services and other agencies.

Please have as much information as possible when you ring.

Your phone call may result in:

- Information, advice and guidance being given about services to help families.
- A referral to the Early Help team who can provide support to children, young people and families.
- A safeguarding referral to a social work team.



BSCB Bristol Safeguarding Children Board

If you are concerned about a professional working with children contact the local authority designated officer (LADO), Nicola Laird:

01179037795

Nicola.laird@bristol.gov.uk

