



Community &
Voluntary Services
cheshire east

Introduction to Safeguarding

An Introduction to Safeguarding



Safeguarding is everybody's business

Ground rules

Please:

- Value and listen to contributions
- Question any differences constructively
- Respect confidentiality within the group
- Confidentiality may need to be broken if a disclosure of unsafe practice, abuse or neglect is made during the course



Objectives of the Session

By the end of the session you will be able to:

- Understand your role in recognising and responding to abuse
- Understand what safeguarding means

Icebreaker

- What is your role in your organisation?
- What groups of people do you come across as part of that role?

What is Safeguarding?

Children (0-17 years)

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's health and development
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

What is Safeguarding?

Adults

- Protecting an adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect.
- People and organisations working together to prevent and stop both the risks and experience of abuse or neglect whilst making sure that the adult's wellbeing is promoted.

Adults at Risk

An adult at risk is a person who:

- Is aged 18 or over
- has needs for care and support needs (whether or not the Local Authority is meeting any of those needs)
- is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect
- as a result of those needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.

Who might be an adult at risk?

- A older person who is frail due to ill health, physical disability or cognitive impairment
- A person with:
 - Learning disabilities
 - Physical disabilities , sensory impairments, communication difficulties, e.g. autism
 - Mental health needs including dementia
 - Long-term illnesses or conditions
 - Issues with substance or alcohol misuse
 - Lack of capacity to make specified decisions

Why is Safeguarding important?

- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility
- People have a right to feel safe and protected
- Organisations who work with children and adults at risk have legal responsibilities
- Statutory duties to enquire/investigate:
- Children Act 2004 and Care Act 2014
- Funders will expect safeguarding policies and robust safeguarding practices to be in place

They say...Video

A close-up, slightly blurred photograph of a woman with long, light brown hair, smiling broadly and showing her teeth. The background is dark and out of focus.

"You're looking like you should today."

Cases of abuse



Activity

Please discuss:

- What types of abuse occur?
- How might you recognise their signs?



Types of harm (children)

- Physical
- Sexual
- Neglect
- Emotional

Types of harm (adults)

- Physical (includes Female Genital Mutilation and Honour Based Violence)
- Domestic violence
- Sexual abuse
- Psychological abuse
- Financial or material abuse
- Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking
- Discriminatory abuse
- Organisational/Institutional abuse
- Neglect & Acts of Omission
- Self-Neglect
- Deprivation Of Liberty

Recognising the signs

- Physical
- Behavioural
- Verbal

Managing disclosures

The 4 R's:



Receive

- Remain calm – try not to look shocked
- Believe what they say
- Don't interrogate - let them tell you in their own words
- Do your best not to interrupt
- Listen for the 'lived experience' of the child

Avoid asking leading questions

Use open questions to help clarify:

- Tell me what you mean by that?
- Explain that to me?
- Describe that



Reassure

- Tell them they have done the right thing in telling you
- Reassure them that they are not to blame
- Empathise but don't tell them how they should feel
- Don't promise confidentiality – explain who needs to know
- Explain what will happen next (appropriate to age and understanding)
- Be honest about what you can do

Report

Act Immediately

Is the person in immediate danger?

Do they need medical attention?

If yes...contact the police on 999 / 101 **and** inform your designated safeguarding lead

If no.. record details of the allegation securely and inform your safeguarding lead without delay

Your designated safeguarding lead will decide on the next steps

Record

What to record:

- The allegation or concerns, including the date and time of the incident
- What was said about the abuse and how it occurred
- What has been reported to you
- The appearance and behaviour of the victim
- Any injuries that are observed
- Whether any dependants may also be at risk
- Use the person's own words

Record ONLY THE FACTS not your own opinions or thoughts

What not to do:

DO NOT

- Discuss the allegation of abuse with the alleged perpetrator
- Disturb or destroy articles that could be used in evidence
- Discuss concerns or disclosures with other members of staff other than the safeguarding lead
- Make promises you can't keep or promise to keep secrets
- Push the person to reveal more details

A team member or service user?

If the person is making an allegation against a member of your team or a service user:

- You must ensure that the person is safe and away from the alleged perpetrator.
- Do NOT discuss the situation with the perpetrator or try to mediate between the victim and perpetrator.
- If an allegation is made against your safeguarding lead, inform another senior member of staff/trustee

Who to contact

The police if you think a crime may have been committed

Telephone 999 in an emergency

Telephone 101 for non emergencies and specify it is a safeguarding concern

If you have any concerns about the safety of a child:

Telephone: 0300 123 5012 (office hours)

0300 123 5022 (all other times)

You will be asked to provide information to allow the necessary enquiries to take place using a Multi Agency Referral Form

Who to contact

If you have any concerns about an adult at risk:

Telephone 0300 123 5010 (office hours)

 0300 123 5022 (all other times)

If you have a hearing or speech impairment you can use the national telephone relay service, just dial **18001** before the number or **18000** in an emergency

To Report or Not to Report?

- A child who has always been outgoing recently becoming quiet and withdrawn
- Older person who tells you her daughter frequently borrows her bank card to go shopping
- Service user who arrives bedraggled and appears not to wash themselves or their clothes
- Male client who arrives regularly bruised and upset

What happens when a referral is made?

- The referrer should be given feedback, although you will not necessarily always be told the outcome.
- The Local Authority will decide how to respond and what priority is allocated to it- lead a multi-agency response
- They will share the information with relevant agencies who will also ask the person who may be being abused what has happened and what action they want taken.
- Safeguarding principles and person – led safeguarding

Disclosure and Barring Service

- Used to be known as CRB checks
- What is a DBS check?
- Why are they needed?
- When can they be undertaken? <https://www.gov.uk/find-out-dbs-check>



Disclosure &
Barring Service

Other issues you might come across

- Prevent – radicalisation and extremism
- Digital safety – on line abuse
- Child sexual exploitation
- Honour –based violence



What next?

- Read your safeguarding policies
- Ensure you understand the policies and what to do in a safeguarding situation
- Know who the safeguarding lead is for your organisation.



Safeguarding your Organisation

- Make sure you have an up to date safeguarding policy and procedure – adults and children
- Staff/volunteer code of conduct
- Make sure safeguarding is included in staff and volunteer inductions and you have regular refreshers

Where to get more information

Cheshire East Children's Safeguarding Board

<http://www.cheshireeastlscb.org.uk/homepage.aspx>

Cheshire East Adults Safeguarding Board

<http://www.stopadultabuse.org.uk/about-us/about-us.aspx>

NSPCC

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/safeguarding/>

Action on Elder Abuse

<http://elderabuse.org.uk/england/>

Prevent information:

http://cheshireeast.gov.uk/environment/community_safety/preventing-violent-extremism.aspx

Scie website:

<https://www.scie.org.uk/adults/safeguarding/>