

Concerned for a child's welfare in and outside of school?

Be alert to signs of abuse, low attendance, unusual behaviour and/or changes to

A child makes a disclosure

- **Listen calmly and attentively**, allow them to speak freely and reassure them that they have made the right choice
- **Use open-ended questions** ("Can you tell me what happened?") and **avoid leading or investigative questions**
- **Reassure them** that they are being taken seriously and will be supported
- **Do not promise confidentiality** — explain that you must share the information to keep them safe
- **Avoid physical comfort gestures** unless **clearly** appropriate.
- **Do not ask the child to write a statement or sign your notes**
- **Record the child's exact words** and any wishes or feelings expressed on paper
- **Report verbally to the DSL** or SLT in DSL's absence and **write up the conversation as soon as possible**
- **Where possible**, manage disclosures with **two staff present**, ideally including the DSL or Deputy DSL

Discussing concerns with DSL

- DSL to consider further actions and make necessary decisions
- If unsure call **MASH Consultation Line** for advice: **0115 977 427** (details not to be shared, this is an advice line)
- Concerns, discussion, decisions and reasons for decision should be recorded in writing
- "Confidential concerns" or "Child protection file" should be opened and filed in line with school procedures
- At all stages, the child's circumstance should be kept under review. Re-refer to relevant referral point if

Still concerned in school time?

- Make MASH referral: 0300 500 80 90
- If safe, call Early Help: 0115 804 1248
- Have all child/families

Out of hours concern?

- Out of hours emergency duty team: 0300 456 45 46

Safeguarding concern resolved/no longer held

- Decide on action needed to support child
- Implement any actions and support plans
- Record decisions and ensure follow ups take place

Record all decisions and actions, working to agreed outcomes and within timescales.

Escalate any emerging threats/concerns by adopting NSCP procedures

Consult with child and family if necessary

- Agree support and refer to guidance "Pathway to Provision"

Allegations/Concerns regarding adults? (paid or volunteer)

- Call LADO: **0115 804 1272**
- Call NSPCC Whistle Blowing: **0800 028**