



**Wakefield District
Health & Care
Partnership**

Safeguarding – Everyone's Business

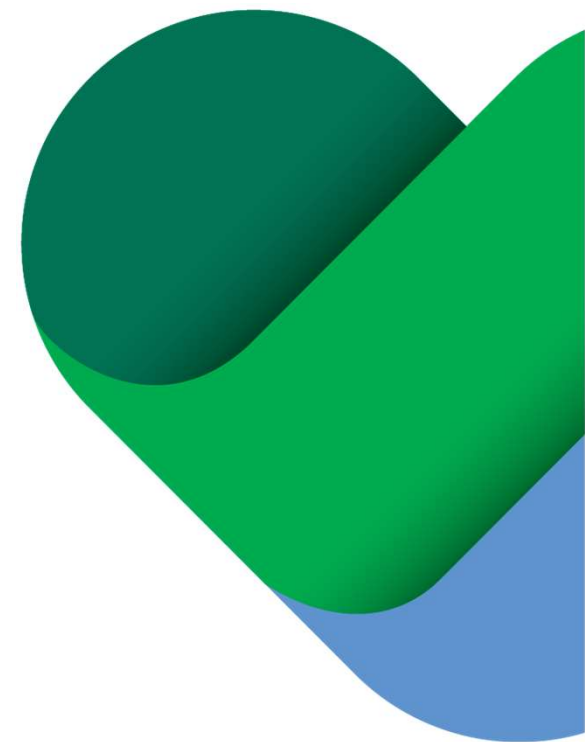
Your Reference C-103880

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22 November 2022

Proud to be part of West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership



Learning Outcomes

- ◆ To increase your knowledge of safeguarding children and adults at risk in Wakefield
- ◆ Understand your responsibilities and relevance to your role
- ◆ Feel confident in recognising, responding and recording safeguarding concerns
- ◆ Know where to seek advice and support
- ◆ Understand how to Resolve Multi Agency Professional Disagreements and Escalation



What is Safeguarding?

- ▶ **Prevention** – preventing abuse through high quality care
- ▶ **Response** – effective responses to abuse
- ▶ **Learning** – using learning to improve services to patients



Safeguarding Children - Statutory guidance

The Department for Education published the updated version of Working Together to Safeguard Children in July 2018. This is statutory guidance which helps professionals understand what they need to do, and what they can expect of one another, to safeguard children. It focuses on core legal requirements and makes it clear what individuals and organisations should do to keep children safe. Safeguarding children is defined as:

- protecting children from maltreatment,
- preventing impairment of children's health or 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 Child Abuse

- ◆ Abuse is a form of maltreatment.
- ◆ Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm, or by failing to act to prevent harm.
- ◆ Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting by those known to them or, more rarely, by others.
- ◆ Abuse can take place wholly online, or technology may be used to facilitate offline abuse.
- ◆ Children may be abused by an adult or adults, or another child or children.



Categories of Abuse – Child

Physical

Emotional

Sexual

Neglect



What is Adult Safeguarding?

“Safeguarding means protecting an adult’s right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. It is about people and organisations working together to prevent and stop both the risks and experience of abuse and neglect, while at the same time making sure that the adults wellbeing is promoted including, where appropriate, having regard to their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs in deciding on an action. This must recognise the adults sometimes have complex interpersonal relationships and may be ambivalent , unclear or unrealistic about their personal circumstances”

Care Act 2014 Guidance



Who is an Adult at Risk?

- ◆ A person aged 18 or over and
- ◆ At risk of abuse or neglect because of their needs for care and support
- ◆ Unable to protect him / herself because of those needs



Categories of Abuse - Adult

- Physical
- Psychological
- Sexual
- Neglect
- Self neglect
- Domestic Abuse
- Organisational
- Financial
- Discrimination
- Modern Slavery



Think Family

- Think Family is an approach where all practitioners working across Adult and Children's services are identifying, considering and responding to the safeguarding needs of all family members. People rarely live in isolation so we need to think about the needs of the whole family regardless of whether it is an adult or child that we are working with. Communication with other agencies that are working with different family members helps coordinate best outcomes for the whole.



What to do if you are worried about a child or adult at risk

- ◆ Discuss concerns with the safeguarding lead / ICB Place safeguarding team OR Contact the Police or social care if it is an emergency
- ◆ Record concerns in the patient record.
- ◆ Make a referral to social care by TELEPHONE, followed up with a written referral (not required for adults) - for children complete the Multi Agency Referral Form (MARF) Available on Wakefield Safeguarding Partnership website. Consent is required from the parent/adult at risk unless a clear rationale for not gaining consent can be demonstrated such as increasing risks
- ◆ Social care process the referral and feedback to the referrer. NB check back if you do not hear back



The seven golden rules for information sharing

- ◆ General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) 2018, and human rights law are not barriers to justified information sharing, but provide a framework for appropriate sharing
- ◆ Be open and honest
- ◆ Seek advice where necessary
- ◆ Where possible share information with consent
- ◆ base your information sharing decisions on considerations of the safety and well-being of the individual and others who may be affected by their actions.
- ◆ Ensure information sharing is necessary, proportionate relevant, adequate, accurate, timely and secure
- ◆ Keep a record of decision making and actions



The IFD and MASH

- The Integrated Front Door (IFD) of Children's Social Care is where all referrals are reviewed. This can include a referral for, or suspected significant harm of a child, but also Early Help.
- The Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) is a process that takes place within the IFD. The MASH health care professionals (HCP) respond to information sharing requests that are deemed necessary to make a decision about the safeguarding referral.
- The MASH HCP are employed by the WY ICB and access health records for provider agencies, provide outcomes of MASH checks. NB. Not all referrals into the IFD will be MASH'd, some will be deemed no further action, or go straight for a strategy meeting.



Resolving Multi Agency Professional Disagreements and Escalation

- When working in the arena of safeguarding, it is inevitable at times there will be professional disagreement between agencies.
- The safety and wellbeing of individual children / young people and adults at risk must remain the paramount consideration in any professional disagreement.
- Professional disagreement should not always be viewed negatively; it can improve outcomes for children, young people and adults at risk in a timely and sensitive manner, and provide important learning for the practitioners / agencies involved.
- Disagreements can be resolved at any stage however, it is the responsibility of all the agencies involved to achieve the best outcome.
- To avoid delay, it is expected that disagreements will be resolved quickly at the lowest level and, if escalated, should not exceed 5 working days.



Learning from local reviews

- Always use professional curiosity, this is fundamental safeguarding practice.
- Consider and analyse cumulative risk (aka as trilogy of risk / trio of vulnerabilities): domestic abuse, substance misuse, significant mental health issues.
- Think family when seeing an adult, document if they have dependants, will accessing a service and support they need positively impact on child – could you make the referral if motivation is an issue?
- Check and challenge with other professionals if you're concerned.
- Utilise the health records to document factual concerns and relevant discussions, and to link family members where able.
- Trauma informed practice, consider a person's history and experience, this impacts on the here and now and could be indicative in parenting capacity.



Key Messages

- ◆ Safeguarding is Everyone's Business
- ◆ Never do nothing if you have concerns, Ask for advice if you need to
- ◆ Put the child/adult at the centre
- ◆ Think Family
- ◆ Ask questions - Be curious
- ◆ Keep a written record
- ◆ Don't expect someone else to act - make the referral
- ◆ Think the unthinkable



The Safeguarding Team at WY ICB Wakefield Place

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Resources

- ◆ Wakefield 0-19 Service of Health Visitors (including Family Nurses) and School Nurses provided by Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust (HDFT) - Contact number **0300 373 0944**
- ◆ <https://www.wakefieldscp.org.uk/worried-about-a-child/>
- ◆ Wakefield safeguarding partnership website <https://www.wakefieldscp.org.uk/>
- ◆ Partnership Intelligence Portal - <https://www.wakefieldscp.org.uk/resource-download/partnership-intelligence-portal-pip-overview-presentation/>
- ◆ West Yorkshire Consortium Inter Agency Safeguarding and Child Protection Procedures <https://westyorkscb.proceduresonline.com/>
- ◆ Working together to safeguard children <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2>
- ◆ Wakefield Safeguarding Adults Board website <https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/health-care-and-advice/adults-and-older-people-services/safeguarding/safeguarding>

