

Child Protection

All adults have a responsibility to protect children from harm. This includes not only parents and professionals but also family members, friends, neighbours and members of the public. Obviously you will only be getting a snapshot into the life of the person that is on the phone but **if you hear anything that makes you concerned that a child may be at risk in any of the following ways then you must follow this up in the appropriate way.**

When would a child be at risk?

There are many different reasons why a child would be considered at risk of harm / abuse. There are different forms of abuse which may make you concerned:

- **physical abuse** - includes hitting, shaking, burning, drowning and cutting - this type of abuse may be easier to identify;
- **physical neglect** - the signs can be a child who is under fed, poorly clothed and with poor hygiene;
- **sexual abuse** - this may be more difficult to identify unless you have directly observed the abuse taking place. Some signs would include the child behaving in an inappropriate sexual manner or using inappropriate sexual language;
- **emotional abuse** - the signs of this include a child who feels frightened or in danger, a child who is constantly criticised, ignored or humiliated.

There will seldom be one single reason why you would have concerns. More often it will be several things which on their own seem to be relatively unimportant but when you look at them alongside other circumstances in the child's life they cause you to be concerned.

What are the signs I should look out for?

Some signs which may make you concerned include the child:

- having unexplained bruising or bruising in an unusual place;

- appearing afraid, quiet or withdrawn;
- appearing afraid to go home;
- appearing hungry, tired or unkempt;
- being left unattended or unsupervised;
- having too much responsibility for their age;
- misusing drugs or alcohol.

It may be that you are worried about a child because of the behaviour of an adult who is caring for them, or involved in their life. The adult may:

- act in a violent way to other adults, within or outwith the household;
- use drugs or alcohol chaotically;
- struggle to manage mental health problems.

How to report a suspected child protection case

For NHS GGC staff only:

Child Protection Service Number - 0141 451 6605

Press 1 for Advice & Support

Press 2 for IRD (Initial Referral Discussion)

Press 3 for any other information

For all Child Protection advice, support and potential medicals.

Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm, 0141 451 6605 (options as above) - Out of Hours 0141 201 0000 (Switchboard)

All NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde staff must follow the guidance for raising and submitting a Notification of Concern. **Add link or flow chart if possible (**
<https://www.clinicalguidelines.scot.nhs.uk/ggc-paediatric-guidelines/ggc->

[guidelines/child-protection/raising-a-notification-of-concern-child-protection-service-guidance-for-staff/\)](#)

If it is an out of hours concern then you can contact Out Of Hours Social Work (covers West of Scotland)

0800 343 1505

For non nhs staff

If you are worried that a child is at risk or being harmed, it is important to tell someone. Your report will be treated in confidence. Everyone has a right to be safe.

Make sure they are safe - If immediate help is required phone 999

During office hours, you can contact **Social Care Direct** by phone (0141 287 0555), textphone 18001 0141 276 4710 or email scdchildrenandfamilies@glasgow.gov.uk

Outwith office hours you can phone Glasgow and Partners **Emergency Social Work Services** on Phone 0300 343 1505.

You can also phone **Scottish Police** non-emergency on 101.

You can also contact [Crimestoppers](#) on **0800 555 111** to report the crime anonymously. They'll pass the information about the crime to the police.

You can report online abuse to [the Child Exploitation and Online Protection \(CEOP\) centre](#).

Don't assume that someone else has already reported it. The child being harmed or neglected may not be able to report it themselves.

For further information:**[Child sexual exploitation – the signs](#)**

This website gives advice and support to young people and parents, including guides to spotting signs of child sexual exploitation.

NSPCC

Phone: 0808 800 5000 (24 hour service)

If you're an adult and worried about a child, the NSPCC professional counsellors can give help, advice and support.

ChildLine

Phone: 0800 1111 (24 hour service)

If you're a child or young person, ChildLine will listen to you and help you work out what to do next. You can also [chat online](#).

ParentLine Scotland

Phone: 0800 028 2233

Monday to Friday, 9am to 10pm

Weekends, 12 noon to 8pm

Support for anyone caring for or worried about a child.

Victim Support Scotland

0800 160 1985 (Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm)

Gives free and confidential support, and practical help for victims and witnesses of crime. You can also [search for victim support in your area](#) for local help and advice.