

Abuse

What it is

- A form of maltreatment of a child, 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. They can be abused by adults, other children or by another child or children.

Signs

- Unexplained changes in behaviour or personality, becoming withdrawn, seeming anxious, becoming uncharacteristically aggressive, lacks social skills and has few friends, poor bond or relationship with parent, knowledge of adult issues, running away, always choosing to wear clothes which cover the body.

What to do

- Log your concerns on cpoms pass the slip to one of the DSL's
- Ensure you are factual and detailed in what you log do not add personal feelings just facts
- Listen to the student if they talk to you, do not judge and do not question them, let them talk but explain you will need to pass it on

Useful Websites

- www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse
- www.childwelfare.gov
- www.nhs.uk/spotting-signs-of-child-abuse
- www.childwelfare.gov/topics/can/identifying

Questions

- What is meant by abuse
- How can you spot abuse
- What should you do if you suspect abuse