

## WHAT TO DO IF – I AM WORRIED ABOUT THE SAFETY OF A CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON

---

### I AM WORRIED ABOUT THE SAFETY OF A CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON

The term child or young person is used to include all children and young people who have not yet reached their 18th birthday.

Respond well to the victim/survivor. If it is a direct disclosure, ensure they feel listened to and taken seriously. Explain what will happen next and check out support requirements. They should be informed that the information they disclose may be shared with the statutory agencies, if there is any current risk to children, young people or vulnerable adults. Confidentiality should never be promised to anyone disclosing a concern or making an allegation. Only tell those who need to know.

**Emergency:** If you are worried that a child or young person is in immediate danger of significant or serious harm or a crime is being committed, you should follow this advice:

- Call the police or an ambulance on 999

**Non-emergency:** If you are worried about a child or young person but you do not think they are at risk of immediate harm you should seek advice. If you think a crime has been committed and it is not an emergency, then contact the police on 101.

Discuss your concerns with the:

- Parish / Benefice Safeguarding Officer (unless they are subject of the concern) or
- A member of the clergy (unless they are subject of the concerns). They must contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser or Assistant DSA: or
- Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser or Assistant DSA directly

Please [click here](#) to view the flowchart listed.

You can also speak with the relevant Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) for your area or the Early Help Team for your area and be guided by their advice:

- Northamptonshire: 0300 126 1000 out of hours: 01604 626938

- Peterborough: 01733 864 180 or out of hours 01733 234724 or emailing [referralcentre.children@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:referralcentre.children@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)
- Rutland: 01572 758 407 or out of hours 0116 305 0005 or emailing: [childrensduty@rutland.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:childrensduty@rutland.gcsx.gov.uk)
- If you do this, then contact the DSA or Assistant DSA

If a disclosure is made against a named person **do not** make contact with that person. Seek advice from the DSA or statutory agencies.

If you are concerned about someone you know, and it is safe to do so, speak with them and explain why you are concerned. Listen to what they say and ask what they would like you to do about the concern. Always try to get them to agree to getting help – but if they don't agree a referral still may need to be made anyway (*if a crime has been or is being committed or someone is at risk of significant harm*).

**Remember:** If you are an incumbent or PSO and a safeguarding concern has been reported to you, or you have contacted the statutory agencies directly, to let the DSA team know what has happened download and complete a [concern form](#) and email it to the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Team:

[Safeguarding@peterborough-diocese.org.uk](mailto:Safeguarding@peterborough-diocese.org.uk)