

Safeguarding News



Issue 4 , Date– Nov 2017

Responding to disclosures

It can be very hard for children and young people to reveal abuse. Often they fear there may be consequences. Some delay telling someone about abuse for a long time, while others never tell anyone, even if they want to.

Children value being believed and, as the adult they have chosen to tell, it's vital that you act on what you've been told

Whenever possible try encourage students to see the Safeguarding team.



All disclosures must be acted upon (whether you believe them or not is irrelevant)

What should I do if a student discloses to me

Make sure you have read Keeping Children Safe in Education and the Academies Safeguarding Policy and that you understand what your Academies procedures are for this. If you still have questions talk to a member of your safeguarding team.

When a student discloses information to you ensure that you;

- Listen and keep calm
- Believe – take it seriously
- Reassure
- Allow the child to tell as much as they want to
- Ask only OPEN questions
- Don't promise to keep it secret
- Don't gossip about it
- Explain what you are going to do next
- Use TED – Tell, explain, describe
- Record and report asap using the child's words
- Don't jump to conclusions or make judgements
- Don't interrupt
- Don't overreact
- Don't say it will be OK
- Don't talk to the alleged abuser

Once you have passed on the information to the Safeguarding team you can go back to them to find out what has happened, they will give you as much information as they can without breaking any confidentiality. If you have passed this information on to the relevant local authority services please record the date, time you made the referral and the name of who you have spoken to and then pass this onto your safeguarding team.

For any other questions please contact a member of your Safeguarding Team