

# Child Protection

This fact sheet can be made available in other languages or formats on request by contacting 0161 770 6666. For further information please see our detailed fact sheet - **Information for all.**

Child protection is about protecting children from abuse. Abuse can be physical, emotional or sexual, or arise from neglect when the child is not given the care needed to grow and develop. Even though a person might not intend to deliberately harm a child, action must be taken to protect the child from the consequences of abuse.

In Oldham, as in every other local authority in England and Wales, there is an Area Child Protection Committee, made up of representatives from social services, health, education, the police and probation services and voluntary groups such as the NSPCC. The Committee works to raise awareness, prevent child abuse, and protect children who have been abused from further harm.

Social Services has a lead role in this organisation and has a legal duty to investigate if a child is thought to be suffering abuse. Social Services also maintains a register of children who are assessed as being in need of protection from abuse

## **Contacting us:**

If you want to ask for advice on any of these issues, or talk to someone because you suspect that a child you know is being abused, you can contact the Children's Assessment Team on 0161 770 3790/1 or in an emergency situation outside office hours contact or the Emergency Duty Team on 0161 770 6936.

Or you can contact:

### **The Police:**

The Family Support Unit

Ring Greater Manchester Police on 0161 872 5050 and ask for the Family Support Unit.

**Education:**

Pupil Welfare

Telephone 0161 627 2700; or speak to a teacher or support staff at the school.

**Health:**

Senior Nurses Child Protection

Telephone 0161 622 6547 Mondays to Fridays, or a family doctor or health visitor

**Probation:**

Telephone 0161 620 4421

The NSPCC freephone 0800 800 500 (24 hours).

**We value your comments and suggestions about Social Services**

We want to provide good quality services for people in Oldham and as we are a public service, you have a say in everything we do. We want you to be completely satisfied with our services, but to ensure this we need to know what you think. What do we do best? Where could we improve things? Do you have any ideas or suggestions? Only by listening to you can we give you the service you deserve. Our Complaints & Representation Officer welcomes everything you have to say and will read each and every one of your suggestions and reply to you individually, responding to any specific issues you raise.

The Complaints & Representation Officer can be contacted at:

Freepost

Children Young People and Families

Complaints and Representations Officer

Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council

PO BOX 4

Civic Centre

Level 8

West Street

Oldham

OL1 1UL

Tel: 0101 770 1129

Fax: 0161 770 3222

E-mail: [cypf.complaints@oldham.gov.uk](mailto:cypf.complaints@oldham.gov.uk)

The Complaints & Representation Officer only speaks English however if you wish we can arrange to visit you with an interpreter.

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