

Safeguarding in Scouting



True / False Quiz

Young people are often attention seeking when they disclose

FALSE

It is very rare that a young person would disclose abuse in a bid for attention. Even when this does occur we should be mindful of what underlying events have led them to do this. Regardless of your personal view or opinion, all young people should be listened to and supported. Disclosures of abuse should never be trivialised or go unreported.

I can report a concern confidentially

TRUE

When you report a concern to the Safeguarding Team you will be asked to share your details. These will only be shared when it is necessary to do so and only to those who need to know in order to conduct an investigation. You can also report concerns anonymously via the NSPCC.

I need to collect facts and evidence before I can report a concern

FALSE

Concerns should be reported immediately. DO NOT investigate concerns yourself as this can seriously delay the work of the Safeguarding Team and put the young person at more risk of harm.

Child abuse mainly occurs in less privileged families or communities

FALSE

Child abuse can and does happen in families and communities of all backgrounds. You should never think it could not happen in your community and be vigilant to the signs at all times.

It is my duty to report concerns

TRUE

Everyone has a responsibility to report concerns, allegations or suspicions regardless of whether they are a professional or a volunteer.

The Safeguarding Team are too busy to deal with questions and suspicions **FALSE**

The Safeguarding Team would rather a suspicion was reported and turned out to be of no concern than it went unreported and potentially escalated or resulted in serious harm.

The National Safeguarding Development Officer is available to answer any hypothetical questions you may have related to Safeguarding although your County Safeguarding Adviser should always be your first point of contact for these sorts of questions.

The majority of children are abused by someone they know

TRUE

Over 90% of children who are sexually abused are abused by someone they know.

Reporting a welfare concern will result in the young person being removed immediately from their home

FALSE

Children are only removed from their home by Social Services where there is an immediate or certain risk of serious harm. The majority of young people are able to be supported within their family setting.

Young people in Scouting don't always feel safe to report concerns

TRUE

The majority of young people who have experienced abuse find it extremely difficult to report their concerns, even to someone they know and trust. We must create a culture in Scouting where young people feel safe and empowered to report concerns.

If a young person does not disclose immediately, it cannot be that serious

FALSE

It can take a lot of time and exceptional courage for a young person to disclose their abuse. They may be being threatened or blackmailed into keeping their abuse secret or being groomed into believing that what they are experiencing is acceptable and not a form of abuse. All disclosures of abuse should be reported in the same manner outlined on the Yellow Card.