



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Safeguarding

You may be working in a new building and/or with new people and with children, you do not know, as you support vital work to provide childcare during the coronavirus outbreak. It is important that while people from different agencies and settings work together, everyone has the same information about what to do if they are worried that a child may be at risk of harm, abuse or neglect. Some practitioners on site will be experienced in responding to safeguarding concerns but some may be less confident about how to respond under new working arrangements.

- Social Services have prioritised children's safeguarding as a critical area of support. Emergency and Duty teams will stay open and it is important that any concern about a child or young person is shared as soon as is possible.
- Fears about sharing information should not be a barrier to safeguarding and promoting the well-being of children at risk of abuse or neglect. Every practitioner must take responsibility for sharing the information they hold, and cannot assume that someone else will pass on information, which may be critical to keeping a child safe.
- If you receive information from a child or from someone else that they are at risk or if you see something which makes you worry that they are at risk, you must pass these concerns on as soon as you can.
- When you arrive on site each day, check who the Designated Safeguarding Person for the service or building is. This person may change if staff need to self-isolate so check this each day on arrival.
- If you are worried that a child or young person has been harmed or is at risk of harm you **must** speak to the Designated Safeguarding Person for the service or building as soon as is possible.
- If you have any concerns you **must** speak to the Designated Safeguarding Person before the child or young person goes home at the end of the day.
- If for any reason you cannot contact the Designated Safeguarding Person for the service or building you **must** phone the local authority Children's Services Team and report your concerns before the child or young person leaves. Make sure you know the number. This can be found on the poster in your setting and online.
- If you believe that a child or young person is at immediate risk of harm phone the Police on 999.