

What is Abuse?

A form of maltreatment of a child. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm, or by failing to act to prevent harm. Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting by those known to them or, more rarely, by others (e.g. via the internet). They may be abused by an adult or adults, or another child or children.

(Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015)

Child abuse is any action by another person – adult or child – that causes significant harm to a child. It can be physical, sexual or emotional, but can just as often be about a lack of love, care and attention. We know that neglect, whatever form it takes, can be just as damaging to a child as physical abuse.

(NSPCC)

What are the main categories of abuse?

Emotional

Neglect

Physical

Domestic

Sexual

Online

Grooming

Bullying

FGM -Female Genital Mutilation

CSE – Child Sexual Exploitation

Child Trafficking Cyber Bullying

For more information and useful tips and videos please access any of the following websites

NSPCC

Registered charity England and Wales 216401



Signs of abuse

All children are unique - their response to trauma will be as individual as they are

Children may not recognise what is happening to them as abuse and therefore not tell anyone

Child abuse can happen to any child in any family in any organisation or setting

Children are more likely to be abused by people they know and trust

Indicators of abuse can be one or all of the below:

- physical, emotional, behavioural and social