

## Our Responsibilities

The Practice recognises that all children have a right to protection from abuse and the practice accepts its responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of children with whom staff may come into contact.

In summary, the Practice will:

- Respond quickly and appropriately where abuse is suspected or allegations are made.
- Provide both parents and children with the chance to raise concerns over their own care or the care of others.
- Have a system for reviewing concerns and referring them upwards.
- Remain aware of child protection procedures and maintain links with the relevant bodies.
- Ensure that all staff are trained to a level appropriate to their role and that training is repeated on a refresher basis through multi-disciplinary team meetings or appraisals. New starters will receive on-line safeguarding training.

### Child Safeguarding Staff at the Surgery

Dr Patrick is the designated Child Safeguarding Lead. Safeguarding Children Administrative Support is provided by Matthew Glass. Kirsty Tripp is the surgery's Young People's Representative. Both are members of the Admin & Reception team

## Useful Contacts



If you are concerned about a child or would like advice you can contact:

### Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Wiltshire Council

0300 4560108  
(out of hours: 0845 6070 888)

The MASH emergency duty service provides an out of hours service for people experiencing difficulties at night, weekends and bank holidays. They can be contacted on 0845 6070 888.

### NSPCC Child Protection Helpline

0808 800 5000

If there is immediate danger phone the police or emergency services on 999.

### Experiences at the Surgery

If you wish to report any observations you have about your experience in relation to safeguarding children & young people at the surgery please use our suggestions box for any anonymous feedback, or if you have any complaints or concerns about the care you have received please see the complaints leaflet available in waiting room.



BRADFORD ON AVON &  
MELKSHAM HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

## Safeguarding Children & Young People



### The Health Centre

Monday—Friday  
8:30am—6.00pm  
01225 866611

### St Damian's Surgery

Monday—Friday  
8:30am—6:00 pm  
01225 898490

### Winsley Health Centre

Monday—Friday  
8:30—1:00pm then  
2:00pm—6:00pm  
01225 860003

Reviewed October 2015

Approved by BOAMHP Patient Participation Group



Patient Participation Group

## What is Child Safeguarding?

Child Safeguarding is a term for a range of measures and approaches to keep children safe and healthy. It includes child protection, safe staff recruitment, statutory duties, patient safety, and partnership working between organisations to safeguard and promote the welfare and health of children and young people.

When children, parents, members of the public or professionals become aware that a child might be at risk of, or is suffering from abuse, they should contact the local children and young people services team for the area in which they live. For our area see useful contacts overleaf. If the abuse requires urgent attention because of immediate danger, the police or emergency services should be called.

## Who abuses or neglects children when it occurs?

- Statistics show that it is often parents or carers.
- Occasionally those in a position of trust with the child, such as professionals or volunteer leaders of activity groups, sports instructors etc.
- Very rarely, strangers.

## What types of abuse should be reported, which will receive a service response?

- Physical abuse includes hitting, shaking, burning or causing any physical harm to children.
- Neglect is repeated failure to provide for a child or young person's basic needs including food, warmth, adult attention, health care and other general care needs.
- Sexual abuse is forcing or encouraging a child to take part in any sexual activity, including watching pornographic material and abuse through the internet. This also includes the exploitation of a young person such as providing drugs in exchange for sexual activity.
- Emotional abuse is emotional ill-treatment such as ignoring a child, not providing emotional warmth or care which could have an adverse effect upon a child.



## What should you do if you are worried?

If you are worried about a child, contact MASH (details overleaf) or the Police and talk about your concerns. Your identity is kept confidential. Everyone in the community has a responsibility to make sure that children grow up safe from harm.

Children's Social Care will make enquiries about the child's safety and assess which services could help. This is done in strictest confidence.

The child, family and those professionals who work with the family will be involved in the assessment. In all cases, what the family does well for the child is considered alongside the concerns.

In most situations children remain at home safely with their family while professionals work with the parents to get the right services involved. In all circumstances action will be taken to safeguard the welfare of the child and improve the situation.



If you are not sure, you should always ask for advice. See useful numbers overleaf.