

Child Protection for Dental Professionals

Safeguarding Children is everyone's business

As a member of the 'Children's Workforce' Dental Professionals and your support staff have a responsibility to ensure safeguarding children (child protection) is an integral part of your daily work.

You all have a responsibility to ensure that:

1. You and those staff who have direct contact with children are able to recognize a child welfare concern in children; for example-
 - Are you concerned about how an injury may have been caused?
 - Are you concerned about an explanation given for any injury?
 - Does the explanation for an injury change over time?
 - Are there injuries that can not be explained?
 - Has there been a delay in presentation to your service?
 - Is there a pattern of 'Was Not Bought' to appointments?
 - Is there a history of recurring injury that may suggest a child welfare concern?
 - Are you concerned about a child's interaction with his or her parent/carer?
 - Are you concerned about the parent/carer's interaction with you or the child (a refusal to allow you to speak to the child for instance)?
2. You know what to do with concerns and who to pass them on to when they arise
3. You know how to access support and advice about how to deal with child welfare concerns
4. You receive training in safeguarding at an appropriate level
5. You are able to ensure you and your staff practice safe recruitment and respond appropriately to concerns raised about staff within your practice
6. You have a safeguarding policy easily accessible to staff and patients

For help and advice contact

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| 1. For further safeguarding help or advice | https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gscp |
| 2. Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) to make a referral | 01452 426565 |
| 3. or if you just want to discuss any safeguarding concerns | Dental.Reception@glos-care.nhs.uk |
| 4. If you need advice about an allegation made about a member of your staff contact the Local Area Designated Officer (LADO) | 01452 426994 |