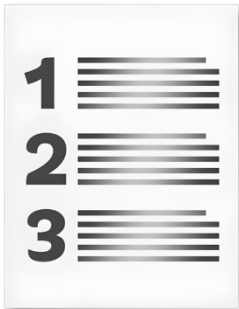


	Autism Bucks Safeguarding Policy
	Easy Read version
	This is a long document. You can read it a bit at a time.
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	What is Safeguarding?
	Everyone has the right to be safe. Safeguarding helps people stay safe.
	Safeguarding means protecting people from abuse.
	Abuse is when someone harms another person or puts them at risk of harm.
	Everyone should help with safeguarding to keep other people safe.
	Autism Bucks takes safeguarding concerns seriously.
	You do not need to be sure that something is abuse before raising a concern.

	What is Abuse?
	Abuse is when someone harms another person or puts them at risk of harm.
	Abuse can happen to anyone.
	It can happen once or many times.
	It can be caused by someone you know or someone you don't know.



Types of Abuse



Physical abuse — being hit, hurt or physically harmed.

Sexual abuse — being made to take part in sexual activity.



Emotional or psychological abuse — being threatened, controlled, humiliated or deliberately frightened.



Financial abuse — someone taking, controlling or misusing your money or belongings.



Neglect — someone's basic needs are not properly met.



Domestic abuse — abuse or controlling behaviour within a family or intimate relationship.

Discriminatory abuse — being harmed or treated unfairly because of who you are.

Organisational abuse — poor or harmful treatment within an organisation or service.



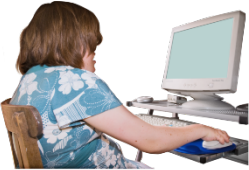
Modern slavery — being exploited, controlled or forced to work or do things against your will.

Self-neglect — when someone is unable or unwilling to look after their own health, safety or basic needs.

	Person Centred Safeguarding
	Remember that everyone is different when talking about a concern. People communicate in different ways.
	Give people time to communicate and process information.
	Respect people's communication preferences.
	Think about sensory needs and other things that can help.
	Don't make guesses based on someone's communication, behaviour or appearance.
	Think about what is usual for the person and if something has changed.
	Distress may sometimes be communicated through changes in behaviour, communication, participation or regulation.

	If you are worried about someone
	Please tell someone if you know of abuse. Speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead, a trustee, volunteer or another appropriate person.
	Tell them what you have seen, heard or been told.
	You do not need to investigate what has happened.
	You do not need to prove that abuse has happened.
	If someone is in danger right now call 999

	If someone tells you about abuse
	Give them time to talk and listen to them.
	Stay calm and take the person seriously.
	Use their preferred way of communicating where possible.
	Do not ask lots of questions.
	Do not promise to keep it secret.
	Explain that you need to tell someone who can help.
	If you can, write down what they said as accurately as you can.

	What happens after you report a concern?
	Immediate safety will be considered.
	Information about the abuse will be recorded.
	We might tell the local authority, police or another appropriate organisation.
	Autism Bucks may help with safeguarding enquiries, criminal investigations or other appropriate processes.
	You may be asked for further information.
	Where possible and appropriate, people will be kept informed about what happens next.
	Information will only be shared when there is a lawful and appropriate reason to do so.

	Safeguarding at Autism Bucks
	Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.
	Trustees have overall responsibility for safeguarding arrangements.
	The Designated Safeguarding Lead provides advice and coordinates concerns.
	Volunteers and people working with Autism Bucks have safeguarding responsibilities.
	Autism Bucks will what they can to reduce safeguarding risks.
	Safeguarding should support people's rights, inclusion and participation.

	If your concern is about someone at Autism Bucks
	You can tell us if you have a concern about a trustee, volunteer or anyone working with Autism Bucks.
	You should still report the concern even if you are worried about what might happen.
	Do not tell the person you are concerned about. Tell someone else.
	Concerns will be handled fairly and appropriately.
	Where necessary, concerns may be passed on to statutory authorities.
	You can also use the complaints or whistleblowing procedures where appropriate.

	Getting help and support
	Autism Bucks • Paulette Hunn ○ safeguarding@autism-bucks.charity ○ Call: 01296 200 035
	Police • 999 ○ If someone is in immediate danger.
	Police • 101 ○ For non-emergency concerns.
	Buckinghamshire Council • Children's Safeguarding ○ Call 01296 383962 ○ Out of Hours / Weekends: Call 0800 999 7677 cypfirstresponse@buckinghamshire.gov.uk • Adult Safeguarding ○ Call 0800 137915 or 01296 383204 ○ Out of Hours / Weekends: Call 0800 999 7677 ○ ascfirstresponse@buckinghamshire.gov.uk
	Please ask someone at Autism Bucks if you want to see: • The full Safeguarding Policy. • Whistleblowing Policy and Complaints Policy