

## **Child Protection – Keeping children safe from abuse**

Most children enjoy a happy and safe childhood. However, this isn't always the case. Members of their family, family friends or other people can sometimes cause them harm. This harm can take many forms but falls into four main categories:

### **Physical Abuse**

Physical Abuse is deliberately hurting or injuring a child resulting in cuts, bruises or scalds. Children can be smothered, poisoned or physically hurt in other ways.

### **Sexual Abuse**

Sexual Abuse means making a child take part in or watch sexual activities either 'live events' or on videos or photographs. Sexually corrupting or exploiting a child.

### **Emotional Abuse**

Emotional Abuse involves making a child feel worthless. It can also involve expecting too much from a child for the age that they are and making them feel bad for not meeting those expectations.

### **Neglect**

Neglect is a lack of appropriate care - not giving a child the food, warmth, and love that they need. Neglect also means not keeping children safe and not making sure that they have medical attention or the education they deserve.

## **Contact Child Protection**

If you are concerned about a child you should contact the **First Response Team** at Staffordshire City Council:

**Telephone: 0800 1313 126**

8.30am – 5.00pm Monday to Thursday

8.30am – 4.30pm Friday

**Fax: 01785 854223**

**Email: [firstr@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:firstr@staffordshire.gov.uk)**

### **Post:**

First Response Team

1 Staffordshire Place

Stafford

ST16 2DH

In an emergency outside office hours please call: 0345 604 2886

More information can be found at **[www.staffordshire.gov.uk](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk)**

If you think someone is in immediate danger or is at a high risk of harm:

Contact the **emergency services** on **999**