

You have concerns about a child or adult **A child or adult discloses abuse to you**

If you think a child or adult may be in immediate danger, call 999

Record

Report

Respond

Record

Report

Relevant Project Leader

Mums and Young Children's Project
Colette Dunford
colette@fotfwinchester.org
01962 864466
07733182712

5s to 13s Befriending Project
Sam Hunt
sam@fotfwinchester.org
01962 864466
07530 532276

Dads' Project
Charlie Wright
charlie@fotfwinchester.org
07899 743308

Designated Safeguarding Officer
Joanna Smith
jo@fotfwinchester.org
07971 191898

If you can't get through to your relevant project leader

If the allegation is against a member of staff or volunteer

Safeguarding Trustee
Claudia Dickens
claudia@fotfwinchester.org
07564 640849

If you feel your complaint is not being dealt with appropriately

- Respond** to a child or adult who discloses abuse:
- ❖ Ensure the child or adult is not in immediate danger
 - ❖ Listen carefully to what they're saying without interruption
 - ❖ Do not probe or ask leading questions
 - ❖ Let them know they've done the right thing by telling you
 - ❖ Say you'll take them seriously
 - ❖ Do not promise to keep secrets – explain you need to tell someone who can help
 - ❖ Do not confront the alleged abuser
 - ❖ Explain what you'll do next
 - ❖ Report what the child or adult has told you as soon as possible

Record what the child/adult has told you, using their actual words spoken than an interpretation of what was said as much as possible. Specific facts relating to the named people, dates, places etc. should be recorded accurately along with any details of the injuries, including where they are and what they looked like. Do not speculate or jump to conclusions.

What stops a person disclosing abuse?

People, especially children, often don't tell others about abuse because they are frightened about what may happen to them, they feel they may not be believed or they think it is their fault. They may not be aware that what they are experiencing is abuse. Although they want the abuse to stop, they may care about the abuser and are worried about them being punished.

Adults who are aware of abuse happening may also not report concerns, because they are worried about consequences or that they might have got it wrong.