

Safeguarding Children in the Community

This information is aimed at community, voluntary and faith sector organisations who have indirect or irregular contact with families and children. Please check with your own organisation's policies on safeguarding before taking any action. If you work directly with families and children on a regular basis, please contact the Somerset [Safeguarding Children Partnership](#) for more in-depth training and information.

Don't Stay Silent

If you're not sure whether you should be worried about a child or family, and you'd like to talk this through with someone, please call the Early Help Advice Hub for a confidential chat on 01823 355803.

If you are concerned a child is at risk, or may be suffering significant harm and you want to alert the local authority, please call Children's Social Care on 0300 123 2224.

Further Information

- [Somerset Safeguarding Children Partnership](#) is working on providing online training. Please continue to check the website for updated information.
- NSPCC's online children's safeguarding training: <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/training>
- The NCVO has [useful advice](#) for organisations and individuals about keeping children safe:
- The Independent Safeguarding Service has [free online training](#) on this topic:
- DfE guidance [What to do if you're worried a child is being abused \(PDF\)](#) describes the actions to take if you think a child is being abused or neglected.
- The Department for Education (DfE) provides the key statutory guidance for anyone working with children and young people: [Working together to safeguard children \(PDF\)](#) (DfE, 2018). This sets out how organisations should work together to keep children safe. Sections 57 – 62 set out the requirements for voluntary, charity, social enterprise, faith-based organisations and private sectors.
- Somerset's [Effective Support for Children and Families guidance](#) can help you understand levels of need and make the appropriate response
- The SSCB Somerset Neglect Toolkit (half way down the list on this [Professional Choices](#) page) can help you to understand whether a child is being neglected
- The [NSPCC website](#) has a lot of resources on safeguarding children
- [SPARK Somerset](#) have a lot of useful information for organisations and volunteers on their website, including free webinars
- Government guidance is available for charity trustees on [safeguarding duties](#)

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