

## **Safeguarding Children and young People** *Help and advice for parents and carers*

As a parent or carer you play a very important role in safeguarding your child from harm. The information you provide and the example you set can give them the knowledge and confidence needed to deal with threatening or abusive situations.

**Warning signs can be rare or hard to spot when a child is being abused. So if you have seen something that concerns you, please don't leave it.**

If your child talks to you about anything that is worrying them, always listen carefully and take them seriously. Try to build an open and trusting relationship so they know they can come to you with their concerns.

**Talk to your child about keeping safe. Encourage them to tell you straightaway if they feel uncomfortable or have worries about another person's behavior in any situation.**

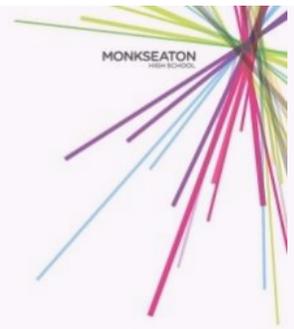
Be a good listener. Children often feel very anxious and embarrassed about speaking out about abuse or bullying. So listen very carefully and take what your child says seriously.

A child or young person may be at risk or subject to abuse in varying forms. It may be physical, psychological, neglect or bullying.

***'Child abuse consists of anything which individuals, institutions or processes do or fail to do which directly or indirectly harms children or damages their prospects of a safe and healthy development into adulthood'***

*National Commission on Child Abuse, 1996*

**Protecting Children is everyone's responsibility.**



### **Are you worried about a child?**

If you think your child or a child or young person you know needs protection, help or advice you can contact us here at the school.

The designated child protection officer is Gary Turnbull or you can contact any of our pastoral leaders.

Alternatively you can contact the **NSPCC** or **North Tyneside's** new **Front Door Service** on 0345 2000 109.



(0)870 000 3344

