

Definitions of Abuse

Safeguarding Children and Young People

Term	Definition
Bullying	<p>Bullying involves the inappropriate use of power by one or more persons over another less powerful person or group and is generally an act that is repeated over time. Bullying may take many forms that are often interrelated and can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• verbal (name calling, put-downs, threats)• physical (hitting, punching, kicking, scratching, tripping, spitting)• social (ignoring, excluding, ostracising, alienating)• psychological (spreading rumours, stalking, dirty looks, hiding or damaging possessions). <p>For the avoidance of doubt, Bullying includes Cyber Bullying, which can also have lasting and damaging consequences. Cyber bullying is usually done via the internet, social media, SMS, MMS or email.</p>
Child Abuse	<p>Child Abuse is the mistreatment by an adult of a Child or Young Person that has harmed, is harming or is likely to harm or endanger or put at risk that Child or Young Person's physical or emotional health, development or wellbeing. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes but is not limited to Emotional or Psychological Abuse, Bullying, Grooming, Sexual Exploitation, Neglect and Child Harassment.</p>
Emotional or Psychological Abuse	<p>Emotional or Psychological Abuse occurs when a Child or Young Person does not receive the love, affection or attention they need for healthy emotional, psychological and social development. Such abuse can also apply to an adult. Such abuse may involve repeated rejection or threats to a Child or Young Person. Constant criticism, teasing, ignoring, threatening, yelling, scapegoating, ridicule and rejection or continual coldness are all examples of emotional abuse. Specific to sport, overtraining can constitute Emotional or Psychological Abuse. These behaviours continue to an extent that results or has the potential to result in significant damage to the Child or Young Person's physical, intellectual or emotional wellbeing and development.</p>
Family Violence	<p>Family Violence is conduct, whether actual or threatened, by a person towards a member of the person's family (or towards the property of a member of the person's family) that causes any other member of the person's family to fear for, or to be apprehensive about, his or her personal wellbeing or safety.</p>
Grooming	<p>Grooming is a term used to describe what happens when a perpetrator of abuse builds a relationship with a Child with a view to abusing them at some stage. There is no set pattern in relation to the Grooming of a Child or Young Person. For some perpetrators, there will be a lengthy period of time before the abuse begins. The Child or Young Person may be given special attention and what starts as an apparently normal display of affection, such as cuddling, can develop into sexual touching or masturbation and then into more serious sexual behaviour. Other perpetrators may draw Children or Young Persons in and abuse them relatively quickly. Some abusers do not groom Children and Young People but abuse them without forming a relationship at all. Grooming can take place in any setting where a relationship is formed, such as leisure, music, sports and religious activities, or in internet chat rooms, in social media or by other technological channels.</p>



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Harm	Harm to a Child or Young Person or other person, is any detrimental or harmful effect of a significant nature to the Child or Young Person's or other person's physical, psychological or emotional wellbeing. It does not matter how the harm is caused. Harm can be caused by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• physical, psychological or emotional abuse or neglect• sexual abuse or exploitation• a single act, omission or circumstance• a series or combination of acts, omissions or circumstances.
Neglect	Neglect is the persistent failure or deliberate failure or denial to provide the Child with the basic necessities of life. Such Neglect includes the failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, adequate supervision, clean water, medical attention or supervision to the extent that the Child or Young Person's health and development is, or is likely to be, significantly harmed. Categories of Neglect include physical neglect, medical neglect, abandonment or desertion, emotional neglect and educational neglect. The issue of Neglect must be considered within the context of resources reasonably available.
Physical Abuse	Physical Abuse occurs when a person subjects a Child or Young Person to non-accidental physically aggressive acts. The abuser may inflict an injury intentionally or inadvertently as a result of physical punishment or the aggressive treatment of a Child or Young Person. Physically abusive behaviour includes, but is not limited to, shoving, hitting, slapping, shaking, throwing, punching, biting, burning, excessive and physically harmful overtraining and kicking. It also includes giving Children or Young People harmful substances such as drugs, alcohol or poison. Certain types of punishment, while not causing injury, can also be considered Physical Abuse if they place a Child or Young Person at risk of Harm.
Sexual Abuse	Sexual Abuse occurs when an adult or a person of authority involves a Child or Young Person in any sexual activity. Perpetrators of Sexual Abuse take advantage of their power, authority or position over the CYP for their own benefit. It can include making sexual comments to a Child, engaging Children and Young People to participate in sexual conversations face to face, over the internet or on social media, kissing, touching any intimate part of a Child's body including a Child's genitals, bottom or breasts, oral sex or intercourse with a Child. Encouraging a Child to view pornographic magazines, websites and videos is also Sexual Abuse. Engaging Children or Young People to participate in sexual conversations over the internet is also considered Sexual Abuse.

