

Fife Contextual Safeguarding - Information for Parents and Carers

Why You Are Receiving This

Professionals who work with your child have identified **worries about their safety in places outside the family home**. It is not about anything you have done or not done at home. Many of the factors affecting young people's safety outside the home are not within a parent or carer's direct control.

Your child may already have received their own information pack explaining contextual safeguarding.

What Is Contextual Safeguarding?

Contextual Safeguarding is about keeping children and young people safe from **harm that happens outside the home** - in locations such as school, the community, online spaces, and situations involving friends, peers or adults.

These risks can include harmful peer influences, bullying, older individuals or groups targeting young people, online risks or community-based violence or anti-social behaviour.

Contextual Safeguarding looks at the wider environments where harm can occur and helps services work together to make those spaces safer.

What is a Contextual Safeguarding Panel Meeting?

A Contextual Safeguarding Panel Meeting brings together professionals who know your child or who have responsibility for safeguarding young people. This may include social workers, teachers, police officers, youth workers, health staff and others.

They will share relevant information to understand the patterns or influences creating risk and develop a plan to make those environments safer for all children.

Why Your Voice Matters

As a parent or carer, you know your child better than anyone. You may have noticed changes in their behaviour, friendships, routines or mood and understand the pressures they may be under.

Your insight helps build a fuller picture of what is happening and what support might make a difference.

What Will Happen to the Information I Share?

Your information will be shared with the professionals attending the Contextual Safeguarding Panel. Information will be stored securely and only shared for the purpose of keeping children safe.

Do I Have to Take Part?

You do not have to complete this form. We are asking you to allow your views to be included in the meeting.

If you have questions before completing the form, you can speak with the professional who provided this pack.

Parent/Carer Contextual Safeguarding Information Form

(For parents and carers to complete independently)

SECTION 1 - About You and Your Child

Your Name:

Child/Young Person's Name:

Your Relationship with the Child:

Contact Number (optional):

SECTION 2 - What You Are Worried About

Please complete as fully as possible. Tick as many boxes as apply.

2a. Where are you worried your child may be unsafe?

- ☐ School
- ☐ Friends / peer group
- ☐ The neighbourhood / local areas
- ☐ Public spaces (parks, shops, transport, fast-food places)
- ☐ Online / social media / gaming
- ☐ Other (please explain):

Please describe what you are worried about in these places:

2b. Are there particular people or groups you are worried about?

- ☐ Friends
- ☐ Older individuals
- ☐ Groups in the community
- ☐ People your child meets online
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ Other (please explain):

Please share any details you feel comfortable giving:

2c. Has anything changed recently that worries you?

For example: changes in behaviour, friendships, mood, travel routes, online use, going missing.

SECTION 3 – What's helping now

3a. What things do you already do that help keep your child safe?

3b. What parts of the situation do you feel you *can* influence?

3c. What parts of the situation do you feel you *cannot* influence?

3d. What makes it harder for you to help your child stay safe?

- ☐ Not knowing enough about what's happening
- ☐ Fear of making things worse
- ☐ Feeling excluded by school or services
- ☐ Communication difficulties with my child
- ☐ Not knowing who to contact
- ☐ Worry about repercussions
- ☐ Other: _____

Please tell us more if you wish:

3e. What support would help you or your family?

SECTION 4 - Anything Else You Would Like Us to Know (Optional)

Signature: _____

Date: _____

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