

Procedures for responding to concerns about a child or young person's wellbeing

What to do if you have concerns about a child or young person

A suspicion of abuse may take the form of 'concerns' rather than 'known facts'. All staff and volunteers of Theatrics have the responsibility to pass on all concerns about a child or young person's wellbeing to the nominated child protection lead, Catherine Trimble. The child protection lead is required to report all concerns to the local child protection services. All staff and volunteers must be aware that these concerns cannot be passed onto local social services on an anonymous basis.

All staff and volunteers of Theatrics must be aware of signs that could be an indication that a child or young person is being abused, neglected or exploited.

The child or young person may:

- 🎬 have unexplained bruising or bruising in an unusual place
- 🎬 appear afraid, quiet or withdrawn
- 🎬 be afraid to go home
- 🎬 appear hungry, tired or unkempt
- 🎬 be left unattended or unsupervised
- 🎬 have too much responsibility for their age
- 🎬 be acting out in a sexually inappropriate way
- 🎬 be misusing drugs or alcohol

Not all children who are abused, neglected or exploited will display these signs and equally a child may display some of these signs and symptoms for other reasons.