Care Act – What is safeguarding?

Keeping people safe from abuse and neglect is called safeguarding.

An adult at risk' is someone who find it hard to keep themselves safe or stop someone else from hurting or abusing them.

Abuse is when someone hurts you or treats a person badly.

Abuse happens when someone has power or control over a person, and they do not agree to what is happening. The person might feel too scared to speak out or stop them.

Abuse can happen anywhere and be done by anyone.

Abuse is wrong and it must be reported to help keep people safe.

Here are some examples of abuse:

Physical abuse is when someone hurts or treats a person roughly by hitting, slapping, punching, pushing, or scratching. Sometimes it can be when someone is given the wrong or no medication.

Sexual abuse is when someone touches a person's body in ways they do not like or want. They might kiss or make the person touch them in places they don't want to. They might make the person have sex with them when they do not want to.

Emotional abuse is when someone talks in unkind ways, making the person feel worried, anxious, scared or unhappy. They may threaten the person making them feel scared or ignore them so they feel lonely and isolated.

Neglect is when someone is not giving the person food, drink, care, medication or help when they need it. **Self-neglect** is when someone doesn't look after themselves.

Financial abuse is when someone takes or uses a person's money when they don't want them to. They might steal the person's money or force them to pay for other people's things.

Talk to someone

It is important you tell someone you trust as soon as you can. It is important you get the right help and support to stay safe.

You can talk to a friend, neighbour, advocate, support worker, doctor or social worker.

These people can help you to think about what to do next.

Report Abuse

In an emergency call 999

WARRINGTON
Borough Council

Adult social care 01925 443322

What happens next?

You will be asked about the abuse and what you want to happen next. You will be listened to.

Safeguarding meeting

There may be a meeting to look at the safeguarding concern. This will be with you and the important people in your life. They will agree a plan with you to help you keep safe.

You can ask a family member, carer or advocate to support you in the meeting.

Your advocate can help you to speak up about what is important to you, help you prepare and be involved in any decisions.

You have the right to have a copy of the safeguard meeting minutes (notes) and in a way that is easy to understand.